

## 7 killed in Sri Lankan shooting

COLOMBO (R) — Seven people were killed in a shooting incident Wednesday between separatist guerrillas and air force personnel in Sri Lanka's troubled northern district of Jaffna, the Defence Ministry said. It said in a statement that guerrillas as well as bystanders were among those killed in the shooting which took place at Chumakam in the northern district. Several others were injured, it added. Air force personnel were involved in another shooting incident later at Malibakam in Jaffna in which several people were injured, the ministry said. The statement gave no further details of the two incidents and did not say if there were any casualties among the air force personnel. Separatist guerrillas are fighting for a separate state for minority Tamils in the island's northern and eastern provinces.

# Jordan Times

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## Greek ship hit in Kharg attack

ATHENS (R) — A Greek tanker was struck by a missile southwest of Kharg Island in the Gulf Wednesday but it was not seriously damaged and would continue its voyage, the Greek Merchant Marine Ministry reported. The statement came a few hours after Iraq reported for the first time that its French-built Super Etendard fighters went into action in the Gulf war, destroying two naval targets in the Kharg Island area. A Greek ministry official said the 41,330-ton tanker Filkon L, which left Kuwait Wednesday morning with a cargo of crude destined for Italy, was struck by a missile at 5.30 p.m. (1530 GMT). The ship suffered a "small breach" but none of the 26 crew was hurt and the vessel was able to steam on, the official said. He did not know what kind of missile was involved or who fired it.

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## King condolences Guinea

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday sent a telegram to Guinean Prime Minister Lansana Beavogui expressing his deepest condolences on behalf of himself and the government and people of Jordan over the death of Guinean President Ahmad Sekou Touré. King Hussein paid tribute to the late president and praised his wise leadership of his people and his endeavours to strengthen his country's relations with Arab and Islamic nations.

## Crown Prince sends message to Klibi

TUNIS (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan has sent a message to Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi on the implementation of resolutions adopted by the Amman Arab summit in 1980 dealing with joint Arab economic action. The message was delivered on Wednesday to Mr. Klibi by Jordan's Ambassador to Tunisia Nahil Al Nimer.

## Iraq urges U.S. to stop arms for Iran

CAIRO (AP) Iraqi First Vice-President Taha Yassin Ramadan, in an interview scheduled for publication Thursday called on the United States to stop supplying Iran with arms, either directly or through allies. Mr. Ramadan told the weekly magazine Al-Musawwar that Iran gets arms from U.S. allies like Israel, Britain, Spain and Scandinavian countries as well as other sources like North Korea and private manufacturers.

## Rumsfeld, Fahd hold talks

BAHRAIN (R) — U.S. special Middle East envoy Donald Rumsfeld arrived in Saudi Arabia Wednesday and had talks with King Fahd on area problems and the Iran-Iraq war, the Saudi Press Agency reported. Mr. Rumsfeld has already visited Egypt, Israel, Sudan, North Yemen, Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait and Iraq on his current Middle East tour. He was expected to leave for Beirut later Wednesday.

## 7 dead in Indian air base explosion

NEW DELHI (R) — The death toll in a blast at an Indian air base in the western state of Gujarat has risen to seven, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said Wednesday. PTI reported that four airmen were among the casualties in the incident which occurred on Tuesday night in Jamnagar air force station when a bomb exploded at a storage depot. Nineteen people were injured, it said.

## 1 killed, 5 injured in Kinshasa blasts

PARIS (AP) — Explosions blasted through the headquarters of Zaire's national radio station and the main post office in Kinshasa Tuesday, killing one person and injuring five others, according to reports reaching Paris Wednesday. A technician was killed at the radio station and five people wounded at the post office.

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## British royal guests visit Jordan Valley, Aqaba

# Hassan briefs Elizabeth on Israeli settlement policy

By Aiffah A. Kaloti  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Wednesday briefed Britain's Queen Elizabeth II on Israel's settlement policy in the occupied Arab territories and said the Jewish state wants to surround Arab towns on the occupied West Bank with Jewish settlements.

Briefing Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, who visited the Jordan Valley which overlooks the occupied territories on the other side of the River Jordan, Prince Hassan said the major challenge facing Jordan now is Israel's expansionist aims and territorial ambitions in the region as reflected in the Jewish state's drive to evict the Palestinian people living under occupation from their homeland.

Prince Hassan also showed the British guests a map pinpointing Jewish settlements in the West Bank and said they are designed to surround and dominate Palestinian towns in the occupied territories with settlements.

The British royal guests were accompanied on their visit to the Jordan Valley by Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor.

Prince Hassan also briefed Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip on various development pro-

jects under implementation and planned in the valley. Jordan is determined to pursue its drive to achieve self-sufficiency and the Jordan Valley projects are the manifestations of the determination, the Crown Prince, who is the driving force behind the Kingdom's fast-developing economy, said.

As the British delegation was touring the Jordan Valley Israeli jets overflew the area and the King pointed to them Queen Noor was heard to say, "appalling."

"And frightening," added Queen Elizabeth.

Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip, accompanied by King Hussein, Queen Noor, later visited a Jordan Valley farm owned by Zaid Rifa'i, a former prime minister and an ambassador to Britain.

The royal guests were received at the farm by Prince Hassan and Her Highness Princess Sarvath,

Mr. Rifa'i and his wife. Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip toured the farm and were briefed on its production.

His Highness Prince Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, Britain's Ambassador to Jordan Alan Urwick and his wife were also at the farm.

The lunch was attended by King Hussein, Queen Noor, Crown Prince Hassan, Princess Sarvath, Prince Abdullah, Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat, Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem, Ambassador Urwick, their wives and a number of civil and military high-ranking officials.

The British royal visitors were also the guests of honour at a typical bedouin lunch hosted by Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lieutenant-General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker on the shores of the Dead Sea.

## Guests visit Aqaba

Wednesday afternoon Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip visited Aqaba and were met upon arrival by King Hussein and Queen Noor. Also at hand to meet the royal guests were the city governor, local officials and Aqaba mayor.

Shortly after arrival the queen and Prince Philip paid a visit to the Marine Science Station. They passed through streets bedecked with flags, and posters welcoming the guests to Aqaba. The streets were lined with schoolchildren, scouts

and cheering crowds. Officials presented a briefing on the work and activities of the various sections of the marine station which is operated by scientists from the two Jordanian universities.

The station which was established in 1974 conducts research on marine life and coral reefs.

One of the highlights of Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip's visit, the first-ever by a British monarch to Jordan, was a reception they hosted at Basman Palace Tuesday night which was attended by King Hussein and Queen Noor, members of the royal family, the prime minister, and ex-prime ministers, cabinet members and senior officials of the palace, army, government and the members of the British delegation.

The reception, which was attended by some 450 people, was marked by the large number of non-officials attending, leaders from all walks of private life.

After the guests were presented to Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh, King Hussein and Queen Noor, the hosts chatted with guests without formality which gave an ambience of simplicity and sent the guests home with a feeling having attended an unforgettable event.

On Thursday Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip are scheduled to visit the Nabatean city of Petra.



Britain's Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, with Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor during a visit to the Jordan Valley Wednesday (Petra photo)

## Arab ministers to probe ways to curb arms flow to Tehran

By Salameh B. Ne'matt  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — One of the most important points to be discussed in the forthcoming Arab foreign ministers meeting scheduled to start in Tunis Thursday to consider "practical measures" against Iran to end the Gulf war, is urging Western countries which deal with Iran to confine their relations with Tehran strictly to areas not related to war.

Officials in Baghdad told the Jordan Times that delegations from Arab states already went to Rome, Tokyo, Bonn and other European countries during the last 10 days and stressed that the Gulf conflict had become so serious for the region that time had come to place strong economic pressure on Iran.

earlier said there would no specific threat of sanctions if the major industrial nations did not stop dealing with Iran. However, there would be praised compensations for lost business with oil and fresh contracts in the Arab World.

Italy, West Germany, Japan and Britain were described as the main targets of the Arab League plan. The results of talks between the Arab delegations and the governments of the major industrial countries will be crystallised in the Tunis meeting, the 81st session of the Arab League Foreign Ministers Council.

The officials said that Jordan, Saudi Arabia and other states which attended the Arab foreign ministers meeting held in Baghdad earlier this month agreed on this approach.

A Jordanian delegation, headed by Foreign Minister Tahir Al

Masri, left for Tunis Wednesday to take part in the meeting. The delegation is also expected to take part in meetings devoted to follow-up the implementation of resolutions adopted at the conclusion of the Baghdad meeting.

The Jordanian delegation is expected to submit a report to the council on Israel's plans to impose its own laws on the occupied Arab territories and attempts to move Palestinian refugees from their camps to the Jordan Valley region.

Iraqi Deputy Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz Wednesday left for Tunis to attend the meeting, the official Iraqi News Agency reported. In addition to the ministerial session, Mr. Aziz will attend meetings of a seven-member committee set up during the Baghdad meeting.

(Continued on page 3)

## Shells pound Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Shells exploded in populated areas of east and west Beirut Wednesday as Lebanon's warring factions awaited invitations to send political and military delegates to the presidential palace for truce talks.

The shelling injured three people in predominantly Christian east Beirut in mid-morning and a few hours later shelling of mainly Muslim west Beirut killed at least two people and injured nine.

The mainly Christian right-wing "Lebanese Forces" militia warned Tuesday it would bombard west Beirut if shelling of east Beirut continued. Twelve people have been killed and dozens injured there in the past two days.

Earlier in the day, President Amin Gemayel was widely expected to call the first session of a committee given the task of stabilising a theoretical ceasefire in and around Beirut by disengaging the rival forces.

The meeting, which had not materialised by Wednesday evening, would be the highest-level gathering since the end of the inconclusive reconciliation conference in the Swiss city of Lausanne earlier this month.

The Lebanese army and the three main militias — the "Lebanese Forces," the Shiite Muslim group Amal and the mainly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) — would each send one political and one military representative.

Smoke from burning fires could be seen rising from several neighbourhoods in east and west Beirut. The various radio stations appealed for blood donations as the firing tapered off at about 4.30 p.m. (1430 GMT), two hours after the first few shells fell, surprising people en route home from work or in shopping areas.

In east Beirut, Reuters correspondent Randall Palmer reported pandemonium in the streets as shelling sent drivers rushing for home. Thick smoke rose from the suburb of Fum Al Shebbak.

In west Beirut the streets rapidly cleared of traffic and pedestrians as stallholders packed up their goods for the day and rushed for shelter.

Lebanese militias allegedly kill 3 Shi'ites in S. Lebanon; Wounded French diplomat reportedly recovering in Beirut, page 2

## U.S.-Arab ties cannot be normal unless Washington changes policy, King says

AMMAN (J.T.) — Relations between the Arab World and the United States cannot be normal as long as Washington pursues its current policy in the Middle East, His Majesty King Hussein has said.

In an interview with the U.S. Time magazine, the King pointed out that pro-Israeli moves by the U.S. is at the expense of the Arabs and deplored efforts in the U.S. Congress to move the American embassy in Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

Following are excerpts from his statement to the Time magazine: On U.S. policy: It is not a question of President Reagan, whom I respect very much. I believe he is committed to peace, but the whole scene in Washington has changed so much. The influence of Israel on the Congress is tremendous. I don't know how this serves U.S. national interests. It is a real tragedy. If I had known that the president was going to have to go before the (United Jewish Appeal) to appeal to them to help to get us the Stingers, I would not have sought it for the president.

If the American elections are so important, and the American constituency is so important, can't people realise that we have a constituency as well? And that (pro-

Israeli moves by the U.S.) are at the expense of our credit, which is diminishing by being your friends? Until a more balanced attitude prevails in the U.S., conditioned by American national interests in the region, relations between the U.S. and the Arab World cannot be normal.

On pressure to move the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem: Why did this issue come out now, and at the initiative of the U.S. Congress and not the government of Israel? This is the sad situation we're in: Israel can receive arms, grants, help and all other kinds of assistance without question. Israel has a right to veto anything the U.S. decides to do for any of its Arab friends.

There is a double standard in all of this. Consider your stand on the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Why are the guerrillas there seen as "Mujahideen" (freedom fighters) while here the Palestinians are seen (by the U.S.) as "terrorists" who have no rights? And the settlements, they were first described (by the U.S.) as "illegal," later as an "obstacle," now as an "impediment," shortly they will be just an "eyesore."

On the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO): My talks with (PLO Chairman Yasser) Arafat

have been constructive. I am going to try to influence the PLO to continue along a path that could lead to a situation where both of us would contribute to the cause of peace in the region and alleviate the tremendous pressure on the people under occupation and free the land. Whether we are willing to negotiate or not, when we look at Israel's West Bank settlements, we see a dead-locked, impossible situation.

On Lebanon and Syria: I believe that what happened in Lebanon threatens Syria, which is composed of elements similar to those of Lebanon. Jordan is anxious not to fall victim to the process of fragmentation in the region. Our independence, our Arab character and identity as a people are at stake.

In 1970 we had a Syrian invasion of this country. In 1980 we almost had an invasion. A small incident could have triggered a major war. It could happen again. On the Soviet role: The U.S. is in a position to launch peace initiatives in the Middle East; the Soviet Union is not. But the Soviet Union can block progress on any peace initiative from which it is excluded. So why not involve the Russian and call their bluff?

## U.S. plans to increase Israel aid

WASHINGTON (R) — A U.S. Senate committee tentatively decided Tuesday to increase economic aid to Israel for 1985 to \$1.2 billion, \$350 million more than President Reagan's budget proposal.

But a senior administration official said an increase for Israel could mean reduced assistance for other countries if Congress cut overall foreign aid.

The Foreign Relations Committee decision reflected the importance attached to the Jewish-

American vote in an election year.

Republican Senator Charles Percy, the committee's chairman, said the increase was "justified" and would enhance Israel's "security."

In its first day of voting on the 1985 foreign aid bill, the committee also left open the possibility of increasing economic aid for Egypt, now budgeted at \$750 million.

The final aid package will be decided after the House of Rep-

resentatives and the Senate vote on separate versions of the foreign aid bill, possibly in April.

But Sen. Larry Pressler said this would cost an extra \$47 million a year and urged the committee to reject the proposal.

In line with the House of Representatives committee, the Senate committee approved \$1.4 billion in military aid for Israel, including funds for production of the Lavi jet fighter plane, and \$1.175 billion for Egypt.

## British diplomat shot dead in Athens

ATHENS (Agencies) — A British diplomat was shot dead and a Greek woman gravely injured by a young gunman in a fashionable district of central Athens Wednesday as they were driving home, police said.

They said the gunman, a swarthy man aged between 25 and 30, pumped at least three bullets into Kenneth Whitty, a cultural officer, at almost point-blank range through the window of the car he was driving. He died almost instantly.

The gunman also shot his passenger Artemis Economidou, a Greek woman who worked with him at the British Council, seriously injuring her in the neck. She was in a coma and was not expected to live, police said.

Two other women employees of the council who were in the car escaped unhurt. Mr. Whitty, a married man in his forties with four children, was driving them to the north suburbs of Athens where all four lived.

Eyewitnesses said the gunman, who had flagged down Mr. Whitty's car at the intersection of two streets, escaped on foot after firing into the air to frighten passers-by.

Police sources said seven bullet cases were found in and around the car.

Embassies in Athens of the four states — Britain, France, Italy and the U.S. — which until recently made up a Multi-National Force (MNF) in Beirut, have enforced tight security in recent months to guard against possible attacks.

## Iraq accuses Iran of faking chemical attacks

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Iraq accused Iran Tuesday of fabricating evidence of chemical weapons attacks to divert world attention from Tehran's refusal to end its 42-month-old war.

Iraqi Ambassador Riyadh Al Qaysi, in a statement, reiterated his government's denial that it had used poison gas against Iranian troops.

In a statement, the Iraqi delegate, Riyadh Al Qaysi, said a regime that sent children to the front and had them explode mines and allowed women to be raped before they were executed could not be exonerated from the possibility of fabricating situations to justify its defeats.

Mr. Qaysi was reacting to a report issued by Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar Monday in which four specialists he sent to Iran found evidence that mustard

gas and nerve gas were used in the Gulf conflict.

The specialists, from Australia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland stopped short of blaming Iraq.

"The government of Iraq has no concern with the said report as Iraq has not used the said weapons," Mr. Qaysi said.

"The barbaric behaviour of the Iranian regime is well-known... accordingly, that regime cannot be exonerated from the possibility of fabricating situations in an attempt to justify its defeats in its aggression against Iraq and to divert world public opinion from the fundamental issue, which is the necessity to end the war," Mr. Qaysi declared.

Algerian envoy holds talks in Kuwait; Kurdish rebels to join Iraqi alliance, page 2

## Egypt tightens security against Libyan 'march'

CAIRO (R) — Egypt took special security precautions Wednesday after reports Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qadhafi might order a mass march across the frontier to press his goal of a merger with Egypt, security sources said.

Col. Qadhafi staged such a march in the early 1970s. The late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat had the demonstrators rounded up just inside the western desert frontier and trucked home.

Vague reports Col. Qadhafi planned a new mass march about now have been current for some weeks — in a comment on March 11, President Hosni Mubarak

after the March 16 Omdurman air raid and any infiltrators in a border military zone raked being shot.

But fears that rumours of trouble on the frontier might trigger subversive acts inside Egypt had now led the authorities to step up police patrols, especially at night, and increase security in foreign embassies, the sources said.

An Egyptian statement Tuesday stressed the frontier remained closed and said "reports circulated by some quarters" that it would reopen on Thursday were unfounded.

It has been shut, except for brief periods, since 1974 as relations between Egypt and Libya, which fought a brief border war in 1977, remained tense.

But Col. Qadhafi has urged its reopening and spoken of a union of the 46 million Egyptians and two to three million Libyans.

Mr. Mubarak said earlier this month that Col. Qadhafi could not be trusted. Egyptian officials say they fear he is looking for ways to stir unrest in Egypt.

U.S., Libya clash over U.N. debate on bombing, page 2

## Israel to hold general elections on July 23

in opinion polls.

Mr. Peres, who originally suggested a date at the end of May, argued that Israel's inflation-wracked economy could not stand the expense of a long campaign.

The early date also appeared to make it more difficult for potential rivals of both Mr. Peres and Mr. Shamir to mount effective challenges.

## Israel to hold general elections on July 23

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and opposition Labour Party leader Shimon Peres Wednesday agreed to hold a general election on July 23, starting the shortest campaign in the country's history.

Mr. Peres originally pressed for polls in May, while Mr. Shamir wanted the vote put back until November. Agreement on July 23 was reached after the two men met

twice Wednesday in parliament. At their first meeting Wednesday Mr. Shamir had favoured holding the poll at the end of July while Mr. Peres wanted it at the start of the month.

Opposition Labour Party parliamentarians, who hope to exploit their current lead in opinion polls, hailed the decision as an important tactical success. Labour last week defeated the

government in a vote to dissolve the assembly and hold an election. Mr. Shamir had been due to remain in office until November 1985.

Israeli elections are usually held about six months after dissolving parliament. Mr. Shamir had sought to follow this precedent by proposing a November date to give his right-wing Likud Party time to close the gap with Labour



# U.S., Libya clash during U.N. debate over bombing

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Libya and the United States engaged in a series of bitter clashes at the U.N. Security Council over an alleged Libyan bombing raid on Sudan.

At one point Washington's chief delegate, Jeane Kirkpatrick, accused Libyan Leader Muammar Qadhafi of waging war against the world.

"The Libyans have demonstrated in the last decade that they are masters of violence," she said.

Referring to Libya's denial that one of its planes bombed the Sudanese city of Omdurman on March 16 and that Sudan itself bore responsibility, Mrs. Kirkpatrick said: "Today, they demonstrated that they are promising apprentices in deception."

Libyan Foreign Minister Ali Treiki retorted by scolding "lessons in morality by the United States" he asked how a country responsible for thousands of deaths in many countries presumed to lecture against violence.

Further lively exchanges were expected later Wednesday when the council opens a debate on a complaint by Libya that the despatch of U.S. AWACS surveillance planes to Egypt and Sudan represented a serious threat to peace.

Answering Mrs. Kirkpatrick's charge that he hoisted Libya's wealth and scoffed at Sudan's poverty, Mr. Treiki said: "The world is going through an economic crisis precisely because of the attitude taken by the American administration."

"The Libyan people are proud because there are not so many people out of work, while 20 per cent of the unemployed in the United States are blacks," Mr. Treiki said he had seen black New Yorkers combing through the garbage outside a supermarket in search of food.

"So this is democracy in the United States," he said. "You will never find this kind of thing in Libya or in the Soviet Union ... or in the Socialist countries."

Rejecting Libya's denial of the Omdurman raid, Kirkpatrick said two Soviet-built TU-22 bombers were photographed flying from Libya and during the attack on Sudan.

"This incident is fabricated and, regrettably, a government struck at its own citizens," Mr. Treiki said, implying that the Sudanese authorities caused the damage in Omdurman, where five persons were killed and many wounded.

Mrs. Kirkpatrick said the TU-22 bomber was a very distinctive plane that looks like no other aircraft in the region, and Libya was the only country there which had the type.

"There is no way to disguise any other plane to look like a TU-22," she said. "Its range is entirely adequate to make the trip from Kufra to Omdurman. It was closely observed in travelling and bombing."

"It was photographed. The facts are clear, despite a certain international effort to obscure them. Truth is not a matter of political will, nor can reality be obscured by the will to confuse, humiliate and destroy."

Mrs. Kirkpatrick urged the Security Council to give Sudan what she termed the protection it deserved and was entitled to have.

Mr. Treiki said the Kufra base from which the raid was alleged to have been launched was a civilian airport.

"The real culprit is the USA, against which we have lodged a complaint in this council," Mr. Treiki said, referring to his request for an urgent meeting of the 15-nation body following the dispatch of American AWACS surveillance planes to Egypt.

Sudan's Foreign Minister, Mohammed Mirghani Mubarak, earlier told the Security Council his government had learned that, immediately after the attack, Libya's Soviet-built TU-22 bombers were moved to a new base and that the crew of the attack aircraft had been promoted.

But no formal statement was forthcoming and the government made no mention of a dialogue with Mr. Talabani.

The charter for national action was signed originally in the early 1970s between the Baath Party and the Iraqi Communist Party. The Communist Party withdrew from the front in 1978 to join Kurdish rebels.

The front now unites the Baath Party and two pro-government Kurdish parties

## Algerian envoy holds talks in Kuwait

KUWAIT (R) — Algerian envoy Mohammed Cherif Masadiya Wednesday discussed with Kuwaiti leaders the Iran-Iraq war and ways to end the fighting, Kuwaiti officials said.

Mr. Masadiya arrived here from Qatar Tuesday and called on the Emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, Wednesday to hand him a message from Algeria's President Chadli Benjedid. The officials said it dealt with bilateral relations and current Arab affairs.

Later he met the prime minister, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah.

Mr. Masadiya told reporters his talks focussed on issues which concerned the Arab World.

Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi has visited Saudi Arabia and Syria, and Mr. Masadiya himself also visited North Yemen and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

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## Kurdish rebels to join Iraqi alliance

BAGHDAD (R) — A senior Iraqi official was quoted Wednesday as saying a Kurdish rebel group would join an alliance between the ruling Baath Party and two other Kurdish groups.

Neim Haddad, secretary-general of the alliance, known as the Progressive Patriotic and Nationalist Front, said the government was continuing a dialogue with the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK), headed by Jalal Talabani.

"PUK will join the other parties of the front to revise the charter for national action," Mr. Haddad, who is also a member of Iraq's ruling Revolutionary Command Council, said. This was the first time an Iraqi official had said talks were in progress.

In January, diplomats here said President Saddam Hussein had signed an agreement with Mr. Talabani the previous month for a ceasefire in Iraqi Kurdistan and broader autonomy for the 2.5 million Kurds in northern Iraq.

They said announcement of the pact had been expected on Jan. 6, Iraqi Army day, or on March 11, the anniversary of the 1977 signing of a manifesto recognising the national rights of Kurds and the Kurdish autonomous region.

But no formal statement was forthcoming and the government made no mention of a dialogue with Mr. Talabani.

The charter for national action was signed originally in the early 1970s between the Baath Party and the Iraqi Communist Party. The Communist Party withdrew from the front in 1978 to join Kurdish rebels.

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## Lebanese militia allegedly kill 3 Shi'ites

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli-backed Lebanese militia forces killed three Shi'ite villagers and wounded 10 in South Lebanon Wednesday, Israeli military sources said.

Militia forces conducting a search in Jibsheh, west of Nabatiya, were reportedly attacking a village on the border between Lebanon and Israel, which also involved Israel's local

roofings, the sources said. "The militiamen opened fire in order to retreat," the sources said. Two of the three villagers killed were women.

Villagers at the scene told reporters that Israeli troops had killed two Lebanese civilians in clashes which also involved Israel's local

militia allies and that an Israeli helicopter had strafed roads leading to Jibsheh.

The Israeli sources said the village was placed under curfew and a search turned up large amounts of arms and ammunition. Israeli troops sealed off the village after the shooting.

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But no formal statement was forthcoming and the government made no mention of a dialogue with Mr. Talabani.

The charter for national action was signed originally in the early 1970s between the Baath Party and the Iraqi Communist Party. The Communist Party withdrew from the front in 1978 to join Kurdish rebels.

## Wounded French aide's health satisfactory

BEIRUT (R) — A French cultural attaché has survived despite being badly wounded by unknown gunmen in west Beirut as French troops continued to pull out of the Lebanese capital.

An embassy spokesman at American University Hospital said Tuesday night diplomat Sauvageur Glizoz was in "very satisfactory" condition after undergoing lengthy surgery.

Sources close to the embassy said Mr. Glizoz, in his late 50s, was shot three times in the chest and once in the leg Tuesday.

The attack came on the third day of the withdrawal of France's 1,250-man contingent in the former Beirut Multi-national Force. The French remained long after the U.S., Italian and British contingents left last month.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack on Mr. Glizoz.

The mysterious "Islamic Jihad" (holy war) group has claimed responsibility for attacks on U.S. and French targets here and has renewed threats to kill citizens of the four nations in the Multi-National Force.

Mr. Glizoz was shot as 12 members of an elite anti-terrorist unit of French Gendarmes arrived. One said they would protect French civilian officials.

## 40 Kurds get jail terms in Turkey

ANKARA (R) — A martial law court in the eastern Turkish city of Diyarbakir Wednesday sentenced 40 alleged militants to up to 20 years in jail for trying to overthrow the state, the semi-official Anatolian News Agency reported.

The military court was trying 135 alleged members of the illegal Turkish Peoples' Liberation Party Front (THKP-C), for murders, robberies, armed assaults and bombings aimed at overthrowing the state and establishing a Marxist-Leninist order, the agency said.

The group, one of many extremist organisations involved in political violence before the 1980 military coup, included many ethnic Kurds.

ARRIVALS

07:05 Cairo (MS)  
07:15 Agaba (RJ)  
07:25 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
07:30 Jeddah (RJ)  
07:45 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)  
07:55 Kuwait (RJ)  
08:05 Damascus (RJ)  
08:15 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)  
08:25 Larnaca (CY)  
08:35 Obdhar, Riyadh (Saudi)  
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08:55 Kuwait (RJ)  
09:05 Cairo (RJ)  
09:15 Baghdad (IA)  
09:25 Istanbul, Ankara (RJ)  
09:35 London (RJ)  
09:45 Rio de Janeiro, Lisbon (IA)  
09:55 Agaba (RJ)  
10:05 Athens (RJ)  
10:15 New York, Vienna (RJ)  
10:25 Amsterdam, Larnaca (KLM)  
10:35 Cairo (RJ)  
10:45 Zurich, Larnaca (SR)  
10:55 Cairo (RJ)  
11:05 Baghdad (RJ)  
11:15 Muscat, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (Gulf)  
11:25 Cairo (RJ)  
11:35 Damascus (RJ)  
11:45 Frankfurt, Larnaca (LH)  
11:55 Agaba (RJ)  
12:05 Damascus, Paris (AF)  
12:15 Cairo (MS)  
12:25 Damascus, Athens, Geneva, (SR)

DEPARTURES

06:45 Cairo (RJ)  
06:55 Damascus (RJ)  
07:05 Frankfurt, Larnaca (LH)  
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07:25 Damascus, Paris (AF)  
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09:35 Kuwait (RJ)  
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09:55 Ankara, Istanbul (TA)  
10:05 Baghdad (IA)  
10:15 Kuwait, Dhahran (RJ)

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be fair with medium and high clouds and easterly moderate winds. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Low/high temperature in deg. C

Amman 20, Agaba 26, Humidity readings: Amman 30 per cent, Agaba 32 per cent.

AMMAN AIRPORT

ARRIVALS

07:05 Cairo (MS)  
07:15 Agaba (RJ)

## Islamic envoys express concern over proposed U.S. embassy move

WASHINGTON (R) — The ambassadors of six Islamic nations have expressed concern to Secretary of State George Shultz about proposed legislation to move the U.S. embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

The Reagan administration strongly opposes the legislation proposed by New York Democratic Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan and supported by 36 members of the Senate and more than 200 members of the House of Representatives.

The leaders of the six ambassadors, Ejaz Azim of Pakistan, told reporters: "we got full support" from Mr. Shultz Tuesday.

If the embassy were moved, Mr. Azim said, "it would create image problems ... and problems of credibility for the United States in the entire Islamic world which extends from Morocco to Indonesia, and at the moment that is about one billion people."

No date has been fixed for congressional action on the embassy legislation but it has become an election-year issue, with both leading Democratic presidential candidates, Gary Hart and Walter Mondale, supporting the move in appearances before Jewish audiences in New York.

In addition to Pakistan, Jordan, Bangladesh, Saudi Arabia, Senegal and Morocco were represented at the meeting with Mr. Shultz.

Afterwards French Foreign Minister Claude Chysson, who presided at the session, told reporters the Community may be better at tackling other people's problems than its own.

The statement said Israel's disputes with its neighbours must be solved by international principles, such as renunciation of the use of force and "non-acquisition of territory by force."

"For the 10, this means that Israel must ... put an end to the territorial occupation it has maintained since 1967."

The statement said the lack of progress towards a Middle East peace settlement since President Reagan's peace initiative and an Arab summit in Fez, Morocco, in

hurt, the official said.

A statement issued by the Turkish Ministry in Ankara identified the attackers as Armenian guerrillas. In Tehran, the Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA) claimed responsibility in a telephone call to a foreign news agency.

The Turkish Ministry said Sgt. Pamukcu was in critical condition in Tehran's Pars Hospital, where he had been taken for brain surgery.

Turkish officials said one guerrilla was killed as he tried to plant a bomb in another diplomat's car, while four other Armenians were

captured by police outside the home of a fourth embassy staffer.

The Turkish Foreign Ministry identified the dead guerrilla as Sultan Gregorian Semperden. He was killed when the bomb he was planting late Tuesday night in the car of deputy commercial councillor Isil Unel exploded.

The ministry said the four men arrested outside the home of Administrative Attache Ibrahim Ozdemir were armed Armenians.

"They were waiting in front of his house, but he noticed them, called the police and four were arrested," the embassy official in Tehran said.

ARMENIANS shoot 2 Turkish diplomats in Tehran

BAHRAIN (R) — Armenians fighting an underground war against the Ankara government wounded two Turkish diplomats in Tehran Wednesday but two other embassy staff escaped assassination attempts unscathed, Turkish officials said.

An embassy official in Tehran contacted by telephone said the deputy military attaché, Sergeant-Major Ismail Pamukcu, received a serious head wound when shot at 8:30 a.m. (0500 GMT) on his way to work.

A second diplomat, First Secretary Hassan Servet Oktom, was hit in the shoulder an chin in a separate attack hut was not badly

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance 193, 75111  
Fire 199  
Blood bank 75121  
Civil Defence rescue 661111  
Fire headquarters 22090-3  
Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777  
Traffic police 65390-1  
Electric Power Co. 36381-2  
Municipal water service 71125-8  
Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53333

HOSPITALS

Husseini Medical Centre 813813-32  
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amman 44281-4  
Akil Maternity, J. Amman 42441  
Jabal Amman Maternity 42362  
Malhas, J. Amman 36140  
Palestine, Jerusalem 664171-4  
Shmeisani Hospital 664171-4  
University Hospital 845845  
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158  
Al-Musharraf Hospital 667227-8  
The Islamic, Amman 667292  
Al-Ahli, Amman 664164  
Italian, Al-Mohajiree 77101-3  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 75111  
Army, Amman 91611

IRBID

Dr. Mohammad Shar' 73680  
ZARQA:  
Dr. Amneh Freihat 86925

GENERAL

Jordan Television 73111  
Radio Jordan 74111  
Ministry of Tourism 42311  
Hotel complaints 666412  
Police complaints 661176  
Telephone:  
Information 12  
Jordan and Middle East calls 10  
Overseas calls 17  
Cable or telegram 18  
Repair service 11

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jls per kg

Apple 350/300  
Banana 280/240  
Bannan (Mukammur) 240/210  
Beans 650/600  
Cabbage 60/40  
Carrot 140/100  
Cauliflower (white) 130/100  
Chestnut 400/300  
Cucumber (large) 180/150  
Cucumber (small) 270/220  
Dates 180/150  
Eggplant (large) 300/150  
Eggplant (small) 220/180  
Figs 400/300  
Garlic 250/200  
Grapes (white) 700/600

Grapes (black) 700/600  
Grapefruit 30/100  
Guava 400/300  
Lemon 150/120  
Marrow (large) 300/250  
Marrow (small) 450/400  
Mandarin 230/200  
Olives 350/200  
Onion (dry) 170/140  
Dill 150/100  
Oranges (Abu Surra) 300/250  
Oranges (Shammoun) 240/200  
Pears 500/450  
Pepper (sweet) 350/300  
Pepper (hot green) 660/600  
Tangerine 180/150

07:00 Beirut, Amsterdam (KLM)  
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07:15 Cairo (MS)  
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07:35 Athens, Copenhagen (RJ)  
07:45 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)  
11:00 Cairo (MS)  
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11:15 Istanbul, Bologna (RJ)  
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11:35 Kuwait (RJ)  
11:45 Jeddah (SV)  
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12:05 Jeddah (RJ)  
12:15 Cairo (MS)  
12:25 Dubai, Karachi (RJ)  
12:30 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)  
12:35 London (BA)  
12:45 Cairo (MS)

DEPARTURES

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AMMAN AIRPORT

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AMMAN AIRPORT

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AMMAN AIRPORT

ARRIVALS

07:05 Cairo (MS)  
07:15 Agaba (RJ)



## Land Day falls Friday

AMMAN (J.T.) — A celebration to commemorate 'Land Day' and to demonstrate solidarity with the Arab people in the Israeli-occupied Arab lands will be held at the Palace of Culture in Amman Friday.

Noble Jordanian and Palestinian figures are expected to make speeches on the anniversary during which they will expose Israel's practices in the occupied regions and its plans aimed at evicting Palestinians from their homeland. It will also commemorate the Arab people's struggle to retain their rights and lands.

'Land Day' symbolises Arab struggle against the Israeli occupation of Palestine and Israel's expropriation of Arab land and

'Land Day' has a special significance in the history of Palestinian resistance to Israeli occupation, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

On March 30 1976, a general strike was held in Arab towns in the occupied lands to protest against Israel's continued drive to expropriate Arab lands.

The strike resulted in atrocities in the villages of Araba, Sukhain and Deir Hanna where Israeli troops used force against the Arab inhabitants, killing and injuring 10 persons.

The Israelis also arrested hundreds of others in a bid to intimidate the population and prevent a recurrence of such strikes.



Labour Minister Tayseer Abdul Jabbar (3rd from right) discusses with South Korean Foreign Ministry Under-Secretary Chung-Sup Shin (3rd from left) Wednesday (Petra photo)

## Joint committee begins Algiers fund raising talks

AMMAN (J.T.) — A joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation Wednesday started talks with senior Algerian officials in an effort to increase Arab support for the joint higher Jordanian-Palestinian committee for supporting the steadfastness of Arab people in the Israeli-occupied territories.

The talks in Algiers came as a result of a decision by the joint committee here last month to dispatch Jordanian-Palestinian delegations to Arab countries in a joint effort to increase Arab financial support for the steadfastness of Palestinian people under Israeli occupation.

The delegation was headed by Jordanian Labour Minister Jawad Al Anani and deputy commander of Palestine Liberation Org-

anisation (P.L.O.) forces Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad).

The joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee was formed by an Arab summit resolution in Baghdad in 1978 with the aim of rendering moral and financial support for the Arab people in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

According to the Baghdad summit resolutions, Arab countries pledged to render financial support to the committee.

But last year several Arab countries did not "honour their commitments."

Consequently the committee decided last month to dispatch delegations "to urge Arab countries to honour their financial commitments."

## \$10m in exports to go to Egypt, protocol says

AMMAN (Petra) — In accordance with a Jordanian-Egyptian trade protocol, Jordan will be able to export products worth \$10 million to Egypt, Mr. Isam Budeiri, chairman of the Amman Chamber of Industry announced here Wednesday.

He said that he discussed with the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism under-secretary, Mohammad Saleh, Al Hourani, the procedure under which to implement the protocol which also

allows Egyptian and Jordanian trade centres in Amman and Cairo to sell a quota of JD 2.5 million worth of products.

The Central Bank of Jordan had earlier given permission to Jordanian traders to export and import products from and to Egypt provided these are not included in the blacklist of the "Arab office for the boycott of Israeli goods" and, provided that payment is made in hard currency.

## Arab ministers to meet in Tunis

(Continued from page 1)

The committee, which includes the foreign ministers of Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Morocco, was entrusted with establishing international contacts aimed at bringing about an end to Iraq's 42-month-old war with Iran.

Reports from the Gulf indicate that North Korea will be one of the countries on which the Arab countries will collectively exert pressure.

A well-informed Arab official disclosed what he believed to be an astonishing figure in the volume of North Korean arms supplies to Iran last year which amounted to \$400 million — a figure which coincides with statistics given by international arms trade sources.

The official added that the Tunis meeting will discuss figures of arms deals as well as supply of materials.

Most Arab countries, including Jordan and Saudi Arabia, according to officials, have agreed to concentrate efforts on exercising their influence internationally to stem the flow of arms to Iran.

Officials said that Arab countries have also agreed that any country supplying arms to Iran will face the loss of economic and commercial interests in the entire

Arab region and possibly adverse effects on political relations with Arab countries.

Italian officials here said that Italy is dealing commercially with both Iran and Iraq and that the government of Rome is trying its best to maintain its impartiality towards the Gulf conflict.

Italian embassy officials in Amman told the Jordan Times that Mr. Aziz was in Rome last week to persuade the Italian government to stop dealing with Iran, but no information on the result of Mr. Aziz talks were revealed. The official added that Italy has always supported efforts for mediation to end the Gulf war.

A French embassy official in Amman said there has been a constant flow of French weapons to Iraq since the war broke out which are supplied in accordance with signed agreements between the two countries. "France never provides any weapons to Iran," the official stressed.

Japanese Ambassador in Amman told the Jordan Times that Japan's basic stand towards the Iran-Iraq war is "to maintain impartiality in view of the long standing relations with both countries." Ambassador Akira Nakayama said Japan would never export weapons to any country as the constitution does not allow such transactions.

## Medical body seeks to reduce West Bank unemployment

AMMAN (Petra) — In a drive to reduce unemployment among West Bank doctors, the Jordanian Medical Association (JMA) plans to open surgeries and clinics in rural areas and villages in the occupied territory, according to Dr. Salah Al Bustami, the JMA secretary-general.

He said that the move is also designed to promote medical services in the rural regions of the West Bank.

The JMA will request Arab countries to send West Bank physicians on courses and postgraduate studies to specialise in particular in the field of X-ray services, anaesthetics, autopsy and cancer treatment to meet the shortages in the West Bank, Dr. Bustami said.

He also voiced his hope that the Jordanian Ministry of Health will increase its allowances and wages to West Bank physicians to allow them to carry out their work.

## Parliaments everywhere pressed to stop Israel

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan's delegation to the Inter-Parliamentary Union conference in Geneva will urge world nations to interfere to stop Israel's illegal practices in the occupied Arab lands and to help the Palestinians regain their rights in their homeland.

The Jordanian delegation will be led by Upper House member Bahjat Al Talhoumi, who is due to leave for Geneva Friday.

Mr. Talhoumi said that his delegation will call on parliaments throughout the world to be active in bringing about peace in the Middle East.

The delegation includes seven other members of parliament and house officials.

## Jordanian delegation leaves for N. Yemen

AMMAN (Petra) — Assistance to the victims of earthquakes in North Yemen will be among the major topics for discussion by Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross societies due to meet in Sanaa, capital of North Yemen on April 1st, according to Dr. Muwaffaq Al Zu'bi, member of a Jordanian delegation which left for the meeting Wednesday.

## Jordan National Bank increases profits by 40.5 per cent in 1983

By Samir Sh. Gbawi  
Jordan Times economic reporter

AMMAN — Jordan National Bank (JNB) has announced that its 1983 net profit was JD 3,127,579, a 40.5 per cent increase over its 1982 net profit of JD 1,857,792.

The bank declared JD 1,642,902 for distribution among the shareholders who will benefit a return of JD 0.180 per share on their investment.

JNB boosted its total assets to JD 155.9 million at the end of December 1983 from the JD 140 million total it reported on Dec. 31, 1982.

Cash in hand and at banks amounted to JD 20.2 million compared to JD 21.1 million held in the previous year. However, the bank's liquidity stood at 48.3 per cent.

The bank's investments rose from JD 18.5 million to JD 26.5 million. Of these investments, which were valued at cost price and covered almost every aspect of economic activities in Jordan, JD 20.4 million were in government bonds, treasury bills and debentures issued by Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, Jordan Cement Factories Co. Ltd., Jordan Electricity Authority, the Jordanian Water Authority and the Free Zones Corporation. JD 4 million were invested in Lebanese

treasury bills and JD 858,703 covered 21 Jordanian public shareholding companies.

The 28th annual report of the bank as of Dec. 31, 1983 showed that bills discounted amounted to JD 29.5 million compared to JD 26.1 million as of Dec. 31, 1982. Overdrafts and loans outstanding totalled JD 42.4 million, an increase of JD 3.8 million over the previous year.

Fixed assets after depreciation stood at JD 2.8 million. The amount includes the cost of acquiring nine new computers in addition to the two already in operation at the bank's main branch in downtown Amman and its Jabbal Amman branch.

On the liabilities side of the financial statement, current accounts, demand deposits, savings and time deposits (including banks) rose by JD 12.1 million to JD 91.3 million. Various provisions rose to JD 16.5 million.

Meanwhile, off-balance sheet items were mixed. Outstanding letters of credit totalled JD 14.3 million, compared to JD 8.6 million in 1982, outstanding letters of guarantee dropped to JD 12.9 million from JD 17.9 million and acceptances edged up to JD 2.5 million from JD 2.2 million. An item classified as other assets and which comprised transactions under clearing (except between branches) totalled JD 4.7 million.

Other items highlighted in the financial statement were deposits in foreign currencies, which amounted to the equivalent JD 4.6 million and which were included in the JD 91.3 million overall figure.

Also, total earnings added up to JD 11.1 million while expenditures totalled JD 9.3 million of which JD 3.6 million were administrative and general expenses.

Jordan National Bank has 24 branches throughout Jordan (eight in the Amman area), five branches in Lebanon (three in Beirut) and four branches which are temporarily closed, in the West Bank. The bank intends to open a branch on the Sahab Industrial Estate this year after having obtained approval from the Central Bank of Jordan.

The bank has interests in the National Bank Ltd. of Dubai, the UBAF group and the Arab Financial Services Company.

Furthermore, the bank's report mentioned that 98 of its employees completed specialised training courses at its headquarters in Amman.

It said the courses covered foreign relations, computer science, financial analysis and an orientation programme for managers. It added that the training centre was set up in 1978 and the number of people attending it since then has totalled 414 employees.

## Chung-Sup Shin praises Hussein's leadership

# S.Korea backs Arabs peaceful role in conflict

By Salameh B. Ne'matt  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — South Korean Under-Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Wednesday expressed his country's support for the Arab countries' peaceful approach in trying to solve the Middle East conflict.

Mr. Chung-Sup Shin, currently heading a delegation on a four-day visit to Jordan, told the Jordan Times in an interview that South Korea is interested in establishing a just and durable peace in the area and emphasised Jordan's crucial role in any future settlement to the conflict in the region.

Mr. Shin praised His Majesty King Hussein for his "inspiring leadership" and expressed his admiration for the remarkable progress Jordan has achieved in the economic, social and cultural fields.

He reiterated his country's position towards the Palestinian issue represented in the call for a total Israeli withdrawal from all Arab

lands occupied since 1967 and the establishment of the legitimate rights of Palestinians to self-determination on their soil.

Mr. Shin and the accompanying delegation Tuesday took part in the first meeting of the joint Jordanian-South Korean commission and discussed a co-operation agreement signed in 1977 between the two countries.

During the meeting at the National Planning Council (NPC), Mr. Shin said both sides reviewed the economic, technical and cultural relations between South Korea and Jordan and studied methods of strengthening relations in fields which included construction and technical projects.

"South Korean businessmen from the private sector will be visiting Jordan in the near future to study the possibilities of joint venture projects," Mr. Shin said. He added that there are 1,200 South Koreans working on projects in the Kingdom.

Mr. Shin said that co-operation between Jordan and South Korea will not be limited to the economic fields. There will also be a cultural exchange which will include the exchange of university professors and the provision of scholarships.

Minister of Labour Tayseer Abdul Jabbar met Wednesday with Mr. Shin and discussed with him matters related to the employment of South Korean manpower and the general situation of Korean companies operating in the Kingdom.

Mr. Shin also met Minister of Public Works Rayef Nejm and discussed with him ways of co-operating mainly in the field of construction.

The South Korean delegation arrived here Monday and is scheduled to leave Thursday for Zaire.

## 'Arab population to rise to 280m by year 2000'

By Afifah A. Kaloti  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The executive director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, Rafael Salas, said that the population of the world, which is about 4.8 billion, is expected to increase to 6.1 billion in the year 2000.

Mr. Salas, who attended the opening of the five-day regional conference on population in the Arab World inaugurated Sunday by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, said that, although population growth rates have de-

clined in absolute figures, population growth will still continue to increase.

Speaking at a meeting with the press, Mr. Salas added that the population growth will increase at a rate of 80 million people annually and is expected to increase to about 90 million annually with the year 2000.

The total population of the Arab countries represented in the conference is about 163 million and "this in fact, is projected to increase to 280 million by the year 2000," he said.

The conference, which is being staged in preparation for the international conference on population to be held between Aug. 6 and 13 in Mexico, includes 16 Arab countries.

The conference, which is being organised by the Arab League and the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) in co-operation with the Royal Scientific Society, is largely being financed by UNFPA.

Mr. Salas said that the countries attending the conference have one of the highest population growth rates in the world with an average of 1.4 per cent globally but three per cent regionally.

The majority of these countries do not really have population policies except in Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco and Jordan to a certain degree, he said, continuing "the rest of the countries have not focused on population as an area of policy," he said.

However, Mr. Salas added, those countries are interested in basic data collection as well as the various attendant aspects of the population issue such as international migration and urbanisation.

"Their attention on population programmes is focused on the linkage of these programmes with maternal child health care programmes health programmes as such," he said.

He pointed out that infant mortality in these regions is relatively high and death rates, although declining, have been close to the very high rate of population growth.

Giving a detailed account of the international population conference to be held in Mexico, Mr. Salas said that the conference is open to all the member states of the U.N. "We expect 140 to 158 countries to participate with an average of four from each country."

On the question of the finance of the conference, Mr. Salas said it is being funded voluntarily by countries which are providing the conference with \$2.3 million in addition to \$2 million which will be spent on the conference by the host government.

Mr. Salas said that the conference aims at three objectives, the first of which is to continue the work and policies that have been embodied in the present world population plan.

The second, he added, is to review the emerging issues in the population field while the third is to anticipate the future course of action with particular reference to the next two or three decades.

Mr. Salas said that, similar to the conference being held here now, in preparation for the Mexico conference many other regional conferences are being held "to synthesise what is peculiar to the population situation of each region," he said.

The Asian, European, African and ECWA regions have already held their conferences "during which they set targets for themselves in terms of the population growth rates these countries ought to be achieving by the year 2000," he said.

With reference to the African conference, he said "it was the first time that these countries have started population policies regarding family planning."

"The decision to focus on this particular issue is because of the awareness of the high population growth rate, the highest in the world being Kenya at a rate of 4.1 per cent," he said.

Mr. Salas said that UNFPA had requested the participants to send delegations headed by a minister.

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# Some say they have contacted long-dead beloved ones

By Jamil Jahshan

OCCASIONALLY, we in this part of the world remember our beloved departed ones and visit their tombs. This has become a tradition, rather a habit, that proves our weak faith in the holy teachings regarding the immortality of the soul. We do this for many conscious and unconscious motives: to torture ourselves, to stop people from gossiping and to satisfy our materialistic conviction that man is the body which once dead leaves nothing behind. Even the most rational discussions regarding life after death are nearly always met with the traditional statement: "No one came back to tell us". This implies a physical return, whereas we are very much attached to our holy teachings.

Here we have a controversy. Is man just the body, and when disintegrated nothing survives? Is man the soul and that mass of energy that survives the physical death? Once we have answered the above we shall have a clearer insight into our behaviour towards the dead.

Life after death has occupied the minds of people through the ages, although religion states clearly that death (the disintegration of the physical body) is not the end. Life continues beyond. Yet our materialistic attachment forces us to identify our being as a mass of energy with the perishable physical body. All knowledge acquired about the world of matter passed through the five senses, and that about the unseen through reason, yet we endeavour to produce material proof to satisfy the senses and sometimes reason.

So far we have succeeded in the field of matter, but when it comes to life after death difficulties arise because what is being relayed to us through media is subject to many interpretations. Science calls for a proof, and it seems we have an evidence.

Famous scientists Tesla, Marconi and Edison had a dream in common, restoring the voices of the dead. They died before they could achieve anything. Every established fact originated from a dream, an intuition, or a coincidence. This time coincidence played the major role in what has come to be known as the electronic voice phenomena (EVP). Recording the voices of the dead on magnetic tape.

In 1959, a Swedish film producer, Friedrich Jurgenson, discovered extra voices on his recordings as he was trying to capture bird songs on tape. Amidst the bird songs he heard a faint human voice speaking Norwegian, saying something about "bird voices of the night". Like others in such a situation he thought they were stray radio signals, but the more he listened the more voices he detected that could not be explained as radio transmissions. The voices included some personal

messages: "Friedrich, you are being watched". A few weeks later he recorded what he recognised to be the voice of his mother, who had died four years earlier — "My little Friedle, can you hear me?" Jurgenson carried on an extensive work and published a book.

Thus research into EVP began. Now, in West Germany alone, there are over a thousand persons researching and classifying messages.

The results so far obtained encouraged electronic engineers and technicians to work on devising new equipment to improve reception and recording. What strikes the investigator is the personal character of most messages which in itself is a preliminary step towards establishing concrete proof that life continues after death and is worthy an open minded study.

Are those recorded messages enough evidence that we survive physical death? Let us read part of the transcript of a recorded tape by Mrs. Sarah Estep, founder of the American Association for

EVP.

"You're my girl, Sarah we have 100—I love you—don't forget to speak—sit on up we touch you. We see different coloured sofa."

As you notice, the messages are brief and short. Researchers attribute this to the weakness of the energy used by the communications, which in fact makes them draw energy from other sources: environmental noises, a music source or what is known as white noise, the noise coming from a vacant radio station. The information on hand makes us understand that the dead contact the living for many reasons:

— To comfort their beloved ones;

— to seek guidance when they are earth-bound as they do not realise they are dead;

— to teach us how to face death and how to prepare for it.

How recording is done. Mrs. Estep explains: "All is required is a standard tape recorder equipped with a cord microphone; a quiet and free of interruption place is recommended."

"It is better to make one or two

short recordings everyday. A short prayer and then an invitation to friends, known and unknown, in the unseen world to join you is recommended as you start recording. After a pause of about a minute another question can be asked and so on. All this should be done with the microphone and tape recorder on. Then you play back the tape while using headphones to listen because the voices come in whispers. You might have to playback many times. That's why five minutes recording is best. The voices usually sound faster than normal."

One question remains to be answered: Are the voices recorded the resounding of the subconscious, as one psychologist declared? Now we can not tell.

Some technicians and engineers have devised new equipment as we said. The most remarkable is Spiricom, a two way communication system that made it possible for technician William O'Neil to communicate with late Dr. Geo J. Mueller who died in 1967. Dr. Mueller gave very ul-

imate details about himself which were later confirmed. On April 6, 1982, Mr. Meek, a retired engineer, addressed the National Press Club in Washington D.C. and told the presence of his 12 year research and findings. He had prepared a 96-minute tape and 100-page technical manual together with other explanatory booklets. Mr. Meek became involved in EVP in 1971 with a friend who is an electronic engineer and inventor with over 80 patents to his credit. By 1975, they had become convinced that an apparatus far more sophisticated than that used in Europe would be necessary and they need the help and collaboration of those on the other side. About that time they met William, an electronic technician who had well developed clairvoyant and clairaudient capabilities. With his help they made contact with a man, dead for five years, and who had been a medical doctor and a ham radio operator. He suggested that they used certain frequencies instead of white noise to make it possible for his voice to be heard and recorded.

After some experimentation they were able to establish contact which did not last long.

Then they came into contact with Dr. Mueller. Hundreds of hours of conversations were taped. Listening to the tape and reading the material, one can but take the matter seriously and tend to study it closely. Some of the tapes have been examined by voice experts. As a result William's voice had nothing to do with the recorded voice. We have to admit that Dr. Mueller's voice sounded like that produced by a computer. This is a result of using a tone generator. Strange enough, Dr. Mueller recognises this fact and admits it.

You agree that we, humans, were, are and will always be after a material proof for sacred truths. In the end we have to prepare ourselves for the inevitable journey to beyond.

Jamil Jahshan is a Lebanese businessman living in Jordan, and a student of psychic phenomena. He contributed this commentary to the Jordan Times.

Randa Habib's Corner

## Pantomime driving

IN AMMAN it is not enough to know how to drive a car, one should also be an expert in the art of communicating by gestures. Let me explain:

When a driver behind you insists to overtake you by giving you signals with his headlights signifying that he is in a hurry what do you do? You go to the right and with your hand out of the window you make the gesture, sometimes galant, and other times nervously that means: "Well, you can pass sir."

When a driver surprises you by overtaking you from the right and then going immediately to the left without giving you the time to brake, you put your finger on your head which means, "My old man, you are completely crazy."

To the driver who comes too close to the roundabout, and who does not seem to notice that he's going to bump into your car, you just turn your hand into half circles signifying: "Where do you think you're going?"

You are driving in a traffic jam and the traffic is heavy. You are advancing slowly. A driver behind you blows his horn and insists to pass. You move your hand to explain that there are many cars in front of you but he does not want to understand and continues to blow the horn. You become nervous and make a big gesture with your hand meaning, "If you want to pass, you have to fly over the cars."

The light becomes green and this gentleman is taking his time. With one hand on the horn and the other moving backwards and forward you tell him: "Get moving."

Now that you have the silent guide, I am sure that you will manage perfectly well on the road.

## Mutineers' descendants live bountiful life on two islands

WASHINGTON — There are more Pitcairners living on Norfolk Island than there are on Pitcairn Island itself. But there are not many of either.

The two islands, some 3,700 miles apart in the South Pacific, are home to the descendants of nine participants in history's most famous revolt at sea, the 1789 mutiny on the Bounty. The nine included the mutiny's leader, 24-year-old Acting Lt. Fletcher Christian.

The Bounty, under the command of Lt. William Bligh, had been sent by King George III to harvest for breadfruit trees in Tahiti and take them for replanting to the West Indies, as a source of food for slaves in the British colonies there.

### Triggered by abuse

But when Bligh humiliated and humiliated Christian shortly after the ship left Tahiti, several members of the crew rebelled. They put Bligh and 18 loyal crewmen into a boat with provisions and sailing gear, permitting the deposed skipper to sail to safety. The mutineers returned to Tahiti. In the "company" of Tahitian women, nine sailed on to Pitcairn, an uninhabited, misshapen island, where they set fire to the Bounty. Their children were the first Pitcairners.

The colony grew, to the point where they seemed likely to over-

populate the tiny island. So, in 1856, Queen Victoria gave them Norfolk Island, slightly larger and the site of an abandoned penal colony. The 193 Pitcairners sailed five weeks to their new home.

But for six families with 43 people, it was not good enough. In 1860 they returned and resettled Pitcairn. By the 1930s the population there had grown to 200. However, with changes in world shipping patterns in the 1960s, markets and opportunities slipped away. Soon, so did many Pitcairners, to homes in New Zealand.

Today the population is 45 and, Ed Howard writes in the October National Geographic, "Pitcairn is dying."

If only a few more residents leave Pitcairn, says Mr. Howard, it may not be possible to man the diesel-powered longboats that are the only way to reach the island or to make contact with the few remaining ships that pass by.

### Unlikely tourist spot

On Norfolk the situation is somewhat different. A little larger, three by five miles, and supplied with an airstrip courtesy of the Allies in World War II, the island now receives some 20,000 visitors a year from Australia and New Zealand.

Nearly half of its population consists of Pitcairners, who in

turn, make up nearly half of the 1,500 Pitcairners worldwide. The rest include about 400 in Australia, mostly former Norfolk residents who left for better education and jobs; 160 in New Zealand, mostly former Pitcairn Island residents; and perhaps 150 or more on Tahiti and other islands of French Polynesia.

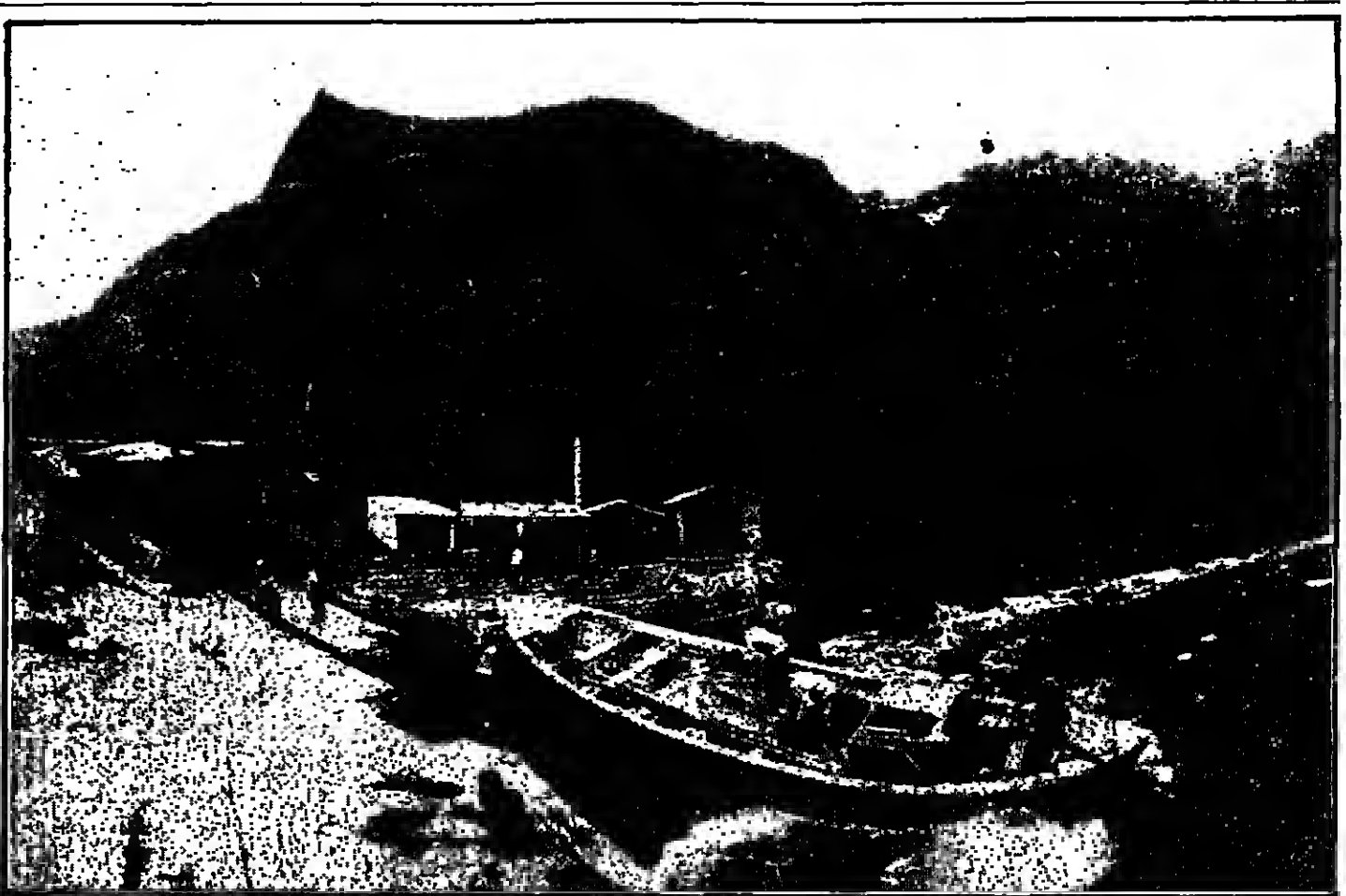
Norfolk has been something of a miniature economic miracle in recent years, Howard writes. It has had a balanced budget and no doubt, despite the fact that it receives no foreign aid and has no taxes on either income or land.

Its revenue comes from vacationers from abroad and from worldwide sales of its postage stamps.

Modern conveniences have come to the islands, raising fears that their unique culture may be undermined. On Norfolk this includes the regular influx of visitors, motor vehicles (a lone traffic light blinks at an island intersection), the presence of video recorders, and the exchange of recorded programmes from overseas.

On Pitcairn the conveniences are less elaborate but meaningful: bulldozed roads, motorbikes, a dusk-to-11 p.m. electricity system, and hand-cranked World War II-vintage telephones.

Residents of Pitcairn follow the Seventh Day Adventist religion, and have a proud heritage. Their 1838 constitution was probably



A diesel-powered longboat is winched ashore at Bounty Bay on Pitcairn Island.

the first in English to give women the vote equally with men, and the islanders were among the first people to write compulsory education into their lawbook.

### Anchored by heritage

But the key part of their her-

itage, of course, is the Bounty. In 1957 National Geographic writer-photographer Luis Marden found the remains of the ship at the bottom of the ocean. One of its anchors now stands in front of the Pitcairn island courthouse. The question remains as to how

long residents will be there, with the anchor. "I think Pitcairn is on her last leg," Mr. Howard was told by Andrew Young, a fifth-generation descendant of a Bounty midshipman and now an island patriarch in his '80s.

If more residents leave, the

most practical choice of port would probably be New Zealand. But there is an alternative.

Perhaps, Howard writes, they will go to "the island their forebears tried and rejected once before: Norfolk." — National Geographic feature.

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## Zico intends to stay at Udinese

UDINE, Italy (R) — Brazil's World Cup striker Zico says he intends to complete his three-year contract with Italy's Udinese after receiving assurances about the soccer club's future.

Zico was quoted in La Gazzetta dello sport newspaper Wednesday as saying chairman Lamberto Mazza had promised to fulfill a commitment to strengthen the first division side with the aim of winning the league title by 1985/86, the final season of his contract.

"I intend to honour my contract," 31-year-old Zico told the leading sports newspaper in an interview. "The contract mentions a programme for increasing the club's playing strength and Mazza told me he will do it."

Zico, second highest scorer in the league with 17 goals, has helped Udinese to seventh place in the 16-team first division.

He said he was aware George Helal, president of his former Brazilian club Flamengo, was trying to get him back, but commented: "These are problems for the two clubs, not me."

The resignation of Franco Dal Cin as Udinese general manager had not affected Zico's position at Udinese, the player told La Gazzetta.

Dal Cin, who negotiated Zico's transfer from Flamengo last July for a fee of \$4 million, resigned last week saying he had lost ent-

husiasm for the job.

According to some press reports, Dal Cin found he had less room for manoeuvre since Mazza had become full-time chairman of the club this season.

Earlier this week Mazza threatened to sell Zico and other players if he did not receive support from other club shareholders.

"Dal Cin is a personal friend but he is not my manager," Zico said. "On the basis of assurances given me by Mazza, I am sure Udinese will continue to grow."

If the Italian club decided to sell him back to Flamengo "I will behave like a professional but they will have to formally propose the transfer to me first," he said.

Zico has been out of the Udinese side for three weeks with a thigh injury, and doctors say he needs at least 10 more days to recover.

## China produces new wave of talent

By Guy Dinmore  
Reuter

LONDON — A new generation of badminton players has been born out of China's millions with a young student from the ancient city of Hangzhou leading the way in this increasingly competitive sport.

Li Lingwei became the youngest woman at the age of 19 to win the World Championships in Denmark last May, beating her compatriot and long-time rival Han Aiping in the final.

Was she surprised? "Not so surprised but very happy," she said in an interview en route to victory over Han in the final of the All-England Championships last Sunday.

Li, although stocky, moves around the court with unhurried elegance, forcing her opponents to scurry after accurate shots.

She admits to feeling pain from an old knee injury when she plays hard and had been unsure of her chances of victory here.

Four Chinese women headed the seedings in the singles championship and four more were seeded first and second in the doubles.

Li, now 20, first picked up a racket at school when she was 12. "I was just playing for fun then and began seriously when I was 16."

She played in her first international in the Asian Championships four years ago and her victories since include the world title and the Jakarta Grand Prix tournament last December when she again beat Han, 22, in the final.

"It will be difficult to improve now but there is always room," she said.

Asked how important success is to her as an individual, she replied: "If I am competing in China, then I play for my province of Zhejiang. If abroad, then I am

playing for China."

A physical education student due to graduate next year, Li ascribes China's recent domination of women's badminton to the simple fact that China has so many people.

But team manager Lu Shengrong takes a different view. Equal rights and opportunities in sport for Chinese women are a key to their success in international competitions, she explained, adding that the women achieve better results generally than men.

Women in China are also under fewer social pressures than their Western counterparts, freeing them to devote themselves fully to sport, Lu said.

Boyfriends, social life and weight-watching are Western problems Chinese sportswomen need not contend with, she added.

Zhang Ailing, defending All-England champion and a relative veteran at 26, has a boyfriend but Lu laughed at the thought of Li courting at her age. "Only the older players have boyfriends," she said.

A sense of urgency pervades the Chinese camp here. The cultural revolution, which threw China into political and social chaos for 10 years, brought a halt to badminton training between 1966 and 1970.

"Now we must run not walk to catch up and we feel we have done a good job," Lu said.

Success on the court is seen as adding to the country's prestige and development. "Sport is a symbol for the country,"

Team spirit is most important. Lu and the Chinese players say that victory in the World Team Championships in Malaysia in May is regarded more highly than winning the All-England, badminton's most prestigious Grand Prix tournament.

Foreign attitudes to success may be different, Lu said. The team manager was especially bappy

about the strength of the women's squad.

Apart from Li, Han and Zhang, 20-year-old Qian Ping was also seeded in the singles, and in the doubles, Lin Ying, 20, and Wu Dixi, 21, world champions last year, were seeded first and Xu Rong, 27, and Wu Jianqiu, 21, second. Lin and Wu duly took the All-England title, beating South Koreans Yun Ja Kim and Sang Hee Yoo in the final.

## Beituna rally set for May

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Royal Automobile Club has just announced the final details of the 'Beituna' Jordan National Rally to take place on May 11 this year. It is the fourth national rally in the present series and the second to be held this year.

Interest in competing in this rally is expected to be high, especially since its results count towards the Jordanian Driver Championship.

Among the participants, but no longer a newcomer, is His Highness Prince Abdullah who is expected to be driving a more competitive and sophisticated car than in the previous rally.

The event will cover 272 kms out of which 90 kms are 'special stages'. The 8 'special stages' will be on very smooth desert tracks with distances ranging from 5 to 14 kms.

Three of the 'special stages' will be same routes to be used in the Jordan International Rally which will take place on July 26-27, 1984.

The Jordan International Rally will consist of 44 'special stages' totalling about 500 kms. Two of these will be on tarmac roads while the rest will be on unsurfaced desert tracks. This two day event will cover a total distance of 1100 kms.

## Connors, Noah triumph

BOCA RATON, Florida (R) — Top-seed Jimmy Connors and second-seed Yannick Noah of France Tuesday won opening round matches in the \$265,000 men's Grand Prix tournament. But eighth seeded Henri Lecourt of France was eliminated.

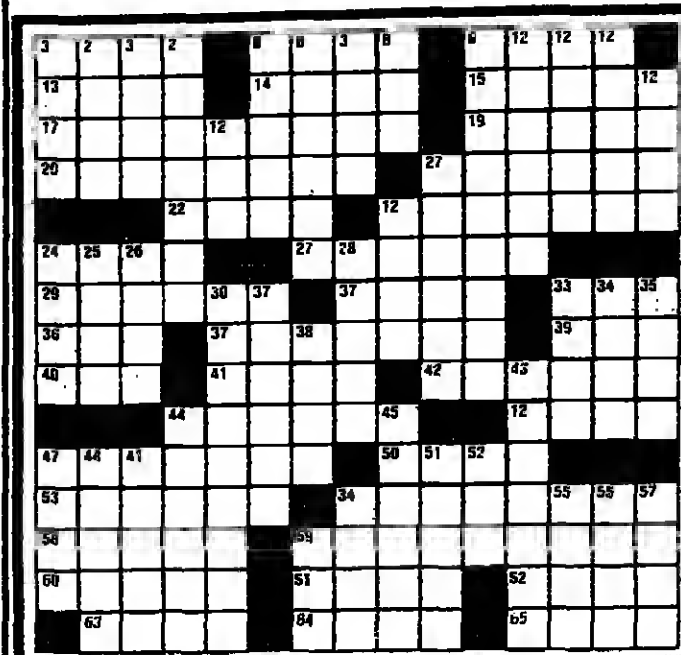
## THE Daily Crossword

By Olive Dunn

ACROSS	24 Wing-shaped	59 Game coup	24 Vipers
1 Protega	27 Golf clubs	60 Doctrine	25 Vault
5 Engrossed	29 Of special	61 Slangy	26 Unite
9 Dwell on	32 Excellence	62 Medley	28 English
13 Cry of	33 Therefora	63 Pay through	30 Game coup
14 Concept	36 Sidakick	64 Shoshoneans	31 Games
15 City in	37 Game coup	65 Resounded	32 the car
Japan	39 Corrida		33 Animal
17 Game coup	40 Scout		34 shelter
19 Water lily	41 Lat. abbr.		35 Earthen
20 Suffers	42 Snuggle		36 Pursue
from the	44 Close calls		38 Female
heat	46 Climax		39 equine
21 Moon	47 Snicker		43 TV adver-
goddess	50 Repeat		44 by car
22 Org.	53 Seraglio		45 Embellishes
23 Cold	54 Instructors		46 Church
through and	58 Guam city		47 Convert in-
through			48 Game coup

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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## Budd should serve one year qualification period, top athlete says

LONDON (R) — Zola Budd, the barefoot South African athlete who has been quoted as saying she wants to run at the Los Angeles Olympics, should serve a year's qualification period before being allowed to run for Britain, says Jane Furniss, one of Britain's top women athletes.

Budd, 17, who has run the fastest 5,000 metres in history by a woman, is currently in Britain seeking British nationality.

Furniss, who gave up her job as a dental nurse six months ago to concentrate on winning an Olympics place, said Wednesday: "The rules dictate that you serve a year's qualification if you change clubs in Britain, so I think it should

be the same if you change countries."

"Before Budd came here I thought I had a good chance of going to the Olympics. I gave up my job to concentrate on making the team and will be upset if my plans are wrecked."

Furniss added: "I don't think it is fair she is being considered, but I'm sure all Britain's top girls will be inspired to run faster."

Marica Hartman, secretary of the British Women's Amateur Athletic Association, said Tuesday that Budd would have to prove herself in Britain before she could be considered for selection for the Olympics.

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The tender documents are available at JPMC general offices in Amman supply department. Application for documents should be accompanied by a non-refundable fees of JD 20 (twenty Jordanian dinars). The closing date for submission tender is 12.00 hours local time Wednesday 25th April 1984.

Wasef Azar  
Managing Director

## BRITISH COUNCIL SULTANATE OF OMAN

A vacancy exists for a male Arabic speaking librarian in the British Council in Muscat. Age preferred 28-40. QUALIFICATIONS: Bachelors degree, British or American librarian qualification, fluent English, typing skills desirable.

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE: Salary scale U.S. dollars 680-1000 per month. Free fully furnished two bedroomed apartment. Air fares at beginning and end of contract for appointee and up to three dependents. Two year renewable contract.

APPLICATIONS: Send full CV to representative, the British Council, P.O. Box 7090, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, telex no. 5718 on.

CLOSING DATE: April 10, 1984  
Ministry of Labour approval No. M/70/84 date 28/3/84

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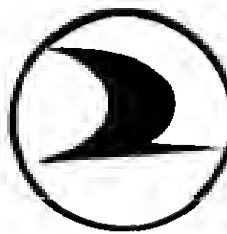
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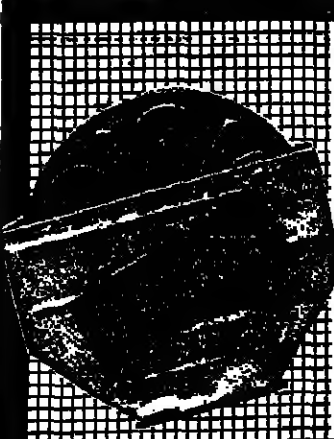


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Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

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Performances: 3:30-6 - 8:30

## Cinema ZAHARAN

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BROKEN CAR

"Italian Film"

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Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

## Cinema BASMAN

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MAWAALI

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"Indian Film"

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

## Cinema PALESTINE

Tel: 22117

1- The three

"Indian Film"

2- STEEL FORCE

Colour

Performances: 12-3-7

## Cinema RAGHADAN

Tel: 22198

AMNE SAMNE

Colour

"Indian Film"

Performances: 12-3-5:30-8



**HONG KONG. (R)** — International businessmen's fears over Hong Kong's political future have made one of its oldest and largest companies, Jardine Matheson, draw up plans to rebase overseas operations in the British colony of Bermuda, the firm's chairman said Wednesday.

Chairman Simon Keswick said that many of Jardine's foreign trading partners were worried about the future legal jurisdiction in Hong Kong after Britain's lease from China on much of the territory expires in 1997.

"When we are competing in the international market place it is undoubtedly a disadvantage to have to deal with questions regarding the long-term future of Hong Kong," he said.

Jardine's has widespread interests including trading, property, shipping and engineering.

Mr. Keswick's statement accompanied the company's 1983 results which showed an 80 per cent drop in net earnings to 139 million Hong Kong dollars (\$17.8 million) from 708 million (\$90.8 million) in 1982.

Mr. Keswick told a press conference that the company plans to set up a new holding company in Bermuda, called Jardine Matheson Holdings Ltd., by July if the proposals are approved by its shareholders and local legal and stock exchange authorities.

However, he stressed that the group's heavy commitments in Hong Kong and China, which account for about 70 per cent of its worldwide activities, will not be affected by the proposed restructuring.

"The proposals neither involve nor herald any withdrawal from Hong Kong nor any reduction in our efforts to expand our business in Hong Kong and China," he said.

## LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market closed lower in quiet trading after a firm start as operators continued to wind down bull positions built up after the U.K. budget, dealers said. They added sentiment was dampened by the recent rights issues from Bowater and Exco. At 1500 Wednesday the F.T. index was down 2.4 at 872.6 while the F.T.-S.E. 100 index was up 0.1 at 1102.0.

Bowater ended 19p up at 313, still drawing strength from Tuesday's demerger proposals and 1923 results while BAT's rose 7p to 218 after 224 on better than expected Results.

Government bonds were little changed on Tuesday's closings in dull trading while North American shares were mixed.

Life insurances were firm and were active following full year results from Prudential up 17p at 465, and Legal and General 7p firmer at 483 after 491. Equity and Law extended Tuesday's results-inspired gain by 22p to 759.

Among quietly firm banks Lloyds and Midland were 5p up at 574 and 384 respectively.

ICI was 10p off at 610, Beecham eased 5p to 315 while Lucas was down 6p to 222 ahead of results.

Oils were mixed after a firm start with Lasmco 5p up at 283 after 285 but B.P. fell 5p to 470 after 476. Gold shares eased in line with bullion and were little affected by the South African budget, dealers said.

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**LONDON (R)** — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.4440/50	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2787/90	Canadian dollars
	2.6025/35	West German marks
	2.9375/85	Dutch guilders
	2.1610/20	Swiss francs
	53.22/27	Belgian francs
	8.0100/50	French francs
	161£.75/1619.75	Italian lire
	225.05/15	Japanese yen
	7.7335/85	Swedish crowns
	7.5225/75	Norwegian crowns
	9.5450/5500	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	385.75/386.25	U.S. dollars

**SYDNEY (R)** — Australia's doctors Wednesday rejected government concessions in a dispute over its new health scheme and announced plans for a national strike early next month.

The Australian Medical Association (AMA) said new government proposals were a step forward but not enough to settle the dispute over hospital contracts under the medicare health scheme.

The scheme, launched last month, aims to provide health care for every Australian and is one of the policy cornerstones of the year-old Labour government.

But hospital doctors have reacted angrily to a clause in the medicare legislation which has allowed the government to set guidelines without appeal limiting specialists' earnings in public hospitals.

The government moved to compromise this week by offering to amend the controversial clause which would allow parliament to reject ministerial limits on the earnings of specialists considered there unreasonable.

AMA President Lindsay Thompson said in a statement that industrial action would continue until the present hospital guidelines under the clause were withdrawn.

More than 3,000 hospital doctors in New South Wales, Australia's most populous state, began one-day-a-week strikes nine days ago, withdrawing all but emergency services.

Mr. Thompson said doctors in hospitals in the states of Victoria would strike indefinitely from Thursday next week and plans were going ahead for a national strike from April 9.

The AMA had called for a formal mechanism of consultation and appeal over hospital contract guidelines to be introduced into the medicare legislation before they become law.

The government set up a special committee of inquiry earlier this month to examine the doctors' grievances.

LONDON (R) — Transport workers paralysed London buses and underground trains Wednesday in a 24-hour strike challenging a government plan to scarp the capital's metropolitan council.

The strike was the first of a series of stoppages called in major British cities to protest against Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's proposals for local government reform.

Roads in London were jammed with motorists and clogged with cyclists as some 2.5 million people found alternative ways into work.

Thousands walked, while others jogged or hitch-hiked. Only a handful of the capital's red double-decker buses ran.

Motoring associations reported 19 kilometres jams on roads into the city as people decided to drive all the way into London rather than risk finding no buses or underground trains.

"London transport unions called" the strike over Mrs. Thatcher's plans to abolish the greater London council and hand control of London transport to a new regional board.

The unions, representing 58,000 workers, say the move will increase fares, say to the closure of some 34 bus routes and 33 underground stations, and result in the loss of 16,000 jobs.

Wednesday's strike will be followed Thursday by strikes by local government workers, not only in London but also in Birmingham and other major cities in England and Scotland.

The unions oppose Mrs. Thatcher's plans to introduce direct government control over taxes levied by local authorities and to abolish the large metropolitan councils.

Council workers in Liverpool will also strike in support of plans by the northern port city's council to embarrass the government by agreeing to a budget which will bankrupt the city.

Meanwhile, in northern England police arrested dozens of striking coal miners Wednesday after they closed main roads for several hours in a dispute over pit-closures.

The miners, who have paralysed more than two-thirds of Britain's state-run coal industry in their two-week-old strike, blocked roads with their cars after police stopped them driving to picket coalfields where men were still working.

Back in London, two ushers at the Old Bailey criminal court found a novel way around the transport strike.

**BRUSSELS (R)**— Britain has emerged at the centre of a European Community (EC) row that has dimmed prospects of early agreement on a vital financial rescue package.

Foreign and finance ministers Tuesday failed in their attempt to heal major splits in the 10-nation bloc which led to the failure of a crucial summit last week.

Diplomats said the ministers left Brussels Tuesday night with little idea of how to narrow differences over two key issues — Britain's demand for a long-term solution to its budget over-payments problem and Ireland's demands for a better deal for its dairy farmers.

They said the British problem was by far the more serious, threatening to hold up critical reforms as the group sinks deeper into financial trouble.

French External Affairs Minister Claude Cheysson, who chaired the foreign ministers' session, told reporters it had been a disaster appointing day after the shock of the summit's failure.

Diplomats said that French, Italian and West German ministers warned British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe over lunch of serious consequences of what he saw as a gradual turn against Britain of public opinion in other community countries.

**'The end of the road'**

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher was quoted as saying:

NEW DELHI (R) — Leaders of India's 300,000 striking dock workers Wednesday backed off from a threat to end talks with the government over a pay dispute that has turned into the country's longest port stoppage.

The last-minute reprieve gave hope to exporters who have approached the government over penalty clauses due to come into force in three days' time in European and U.S. trade agreements.

The four main unions involved in the 13-day-old action said in a statement they were prepared to meet Shipping Minister Bhaskara Reddy again Thursday in another bid to end the strike that has paralysed the country's ports.

Mr. S.R. Kulkarni, president of the powerful All India Port and Dock Workers' Federation, told reporters Wednesday's talks did not settle the wages dispute. He said a wide gap remained between the government and the strike leaders.

But he added that the unions agreed to resume negotiations and not go ahead with a threat to end the talks if Wednesday's meeting was not successful.

A government spokesman said the next formal round of talks would be held late Thursday after both sides had exchanged further information, an apparent reference to informal discussions.

The government has offered pay rises totalling \$39 million, while the unions are demanding \$63 million in wage increases and improved allowances.

Trade and industry officials told Reuters that the strike had stranded about 200 ships waiting to load Indian exports or carrying vital imports of industrial raw materials and crude oil.

Mr. Govind Ballabh Sardesai, secretary of the All India Shippers' Council, told Reuters that letters of credit for imports and exports opened by businessmen for 1983-84 would expire at the end of the financial year on March 31.

"Businessmen will need to pay a large penalty to renew such letters of credit," he said.

The council has asked the government to exempt businessmen from penalties incurred as a result of the strike.

At Madras port, exports of ready-made garments and leather goods, valued at more than \$15 million, had been held up by the strike, a commerce ministry official told Reuters.

The official said export quotas granted by Western Europe and the United States would lapse at the end of the month unless the shipments were made by March 31.

Shipping officials said the strike was the country's longest and most expensive.

It is estimated to have cost the country 13 billion rupees (\$1.3 billion) so far, they added.

The government spokesman told reporters that major ports had kept essential services running by using the navy to berth vessels carrying crude oil, edible oils and coal.

But Sir Geoffrey stoutly defended Britain's insistence on what it considers a fair budget deal, speaking to reporters of "amazing flexibility" on Britain's part and lack of appreciation of its position.

Mr. Cheysson criticised Britain for failing to respond to major concessions by its nine partners.

The foreign ministers will meet again in Luxembourg on April 9 but Mr. Cheysson said the concessions would no longer be on offer then.

He said the question of Britain's budget refund may also be taken up by community finance ministers at their meeting in Luxembourg on Monday.

But he said French President Francois Mitterand, the current community president, would decide in the next few days whether to call a special informal summit to discuss the troubled group's future.

"After this deadlock, it is vital that every one should ask once again — do we need this community?" he said.

One Dutch official spoke of Britain's "salami tactics" of obtaining concessions without offering anything in return but British diplomats rejected charges that their country was trying to impose its will.

Sir Geoffrey mentioned three major British concessions to its partners at the summit which had yet to be equalled.

These were acceptance of an \$850 million refund for 1984, a \$200 million drop in Britain's reference figure for subsequent refunds and acceptance of a system which would reduce the real size of its budget deficit by up to \$300 million a year.

He agreed that a \$200 million gap continued to separate Britain from its partners.

# YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** A daytime activity to reduce your over-all aims and ambitions is good, but it can lead to an upset in the evening when it is necessary that you hold tight to accepted standards.

**ARIES** (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Gain the favor of a bigwig during the day for some ambitious plan you have in mind, but don't think there is something wrong in P.M.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 20 to May 20) Try a new tact, and gain some personal aim, but carry through once you have made up your mind; don't dilly dally.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 21) Study your worldly goals, and make them work like a charm, and don't permit a negative thinking person to dissuade you.

**MOON CHILDREN** (June 22 to Jul. 21) Look to a powerful friend to help you with some new interests that could prove lucrative. Think more constructively.

**LEO** (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Make the right decision about some future course with one you want as an associate, but put everything down in black and white.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Know what a partner expects of you, both financially and in work matters. Avoid a family tie who is opposed to new interests.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Get your home in better condition, and be happier in it. Start using your own lead instead of listening to others.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You have to, contact co-worker if you want to have some pleasure you desire. Be clever and you succeed.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You have a chance to talk with kin about finances, so don't prostrate any longer.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You have a problem in the business world that a good partner can help you to solve. Be happy in the evening.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Don't permit an inquisitive friend to butt in on a talk you are having with a bigwig who can be of assistance in the future.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Look for suggestions on a good pad regarding some modern idea you have, and you can handle it successfully.

**IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ...** be or she will be one who can comprehend anything of a cultural or artistic nature so give as fine an education as you can, and add business courses to the curriculum in order to become more successful during the lifetime.

\*\*\*

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

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**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** A wonderful day for you to be aware of what is going on about you. Being still and allowing your new accurate intuitions to come to the surface gives you the right answers.

**ARIES** (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Anything you have in mind that is secretive can now be made to work very much to your benefit in vital affairs.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 20 to May 20) Get in touch with friends with whom you want to have some alliance that will be mutually advantageous.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 21) Anything you do now of a public nature can bring you greater esteem and prestige. Be full of enthusiasm in the morning.

**MOON CHILDREN** (June 22 to Jul. 21) You can get into new ventures of worth today that can bring fine benefits in the future. Plan a long awaited trip.

**LEO** (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get into the most worthwhile activities with your mate, and make big progress in them. Be tactful.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be more concerned with your relationship with a partner, and get it improved to the advantage of both.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You know how to handle work ahead of you and should apply yourself seriously and become more successful.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You can come to a better understanding with your mate. Be more willing to compromise some.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You find it much easier to get kin to agree with your ideas. A good evening for having people into your home.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Be sure to add a friendly word in any communications and get good results. Be cheerful and happy.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Finances should be uppermost on your mind since today you can do much to add to your present abundance.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Find some way of gaining what you most want of a personal nature. Join a group of friends at some delightful affairs.

**IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ...** he or she will be full of imagination, but can bring ideas down to a practical level, so teach the right principles, and this can become a more successful life. Self-expression comes easily, and there is bound to be much popularity.

\*\*\*

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

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RONALD KING, MD

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"You've got high blood pressure. Stop taking everything with a grain of salt."

## SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

**TYTUP**

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**TASID**

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**OANNEY**

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**DRAMOR**

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**WHAT THE INVISIBLE MAN'S MOTHER OR FATHER MUST HAVE BEEN.**

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

**TOKYO (R)** — Tokyo share prices Wednesday rose to a record high for the first time in 10 days, helped by falling interest rates and signs that Japan's economic revival is gathering momentum, stockbrokers said.

The day's trading volume of 930 million shares was the largest in over a year, taking the index 172.51 points higher to a closing 10,700.87, the biggest jump seen this year.

Japanese shares have been spiralling upwards since the start of 1984, helped by buying from foreign investors, and the index has advanced just over 770 points in less than three months.

"It could reach 12,000 by June," Mr. Yoji Kishi, an analyst for the country's largest stockbroking firm, Nomura Securities, told Reuters.

Early in the month, the announced rate on lending to customers to 10 per cent, with profits by costs.



# Hart trounces Mondale in Connecticut primary

NEW YORK (R) — Gary Hart trounced Walter Mondale in Tuesday's Connecticut primary to regain some initiative in his bid for the presidency as the two men headed for a major showdown in New York.

With the pivotal and delegate-rich New York primary only six days away, Senator Hart ended a two-week losing streak by taking more than half the vote in Connecticut.

Sen. Hart won 55 per cent of more than 200,000 votes cast in New York's neighbouring state, while Mr. Mondale received only 30 per cent and civil rights leader Jesse Jackson 12 per cent.

"I believe the results represent a rejection of negative campaigning and negative politics," Sen. Hart declared.

With the exception of blacks, who voted heavily for Rev. Jackson, Sen. Hart won every group in the state from the poor to labour union workers to the affluent so-called yuppies (young urban professionals) who form the backbone of his support.

In a statistic that could give the Mondale camp the jitters, Sen. Hart also won the Jewish vote by 58 per cent to 36 per cent, according to exit polls conducted by the NBC and ABC television networks.

About a third of New York primary voters are Jewish and the two candidates have campaigned hard for their vote.

An ABC poll showed Mr. Mon-

dale ahead of Sen. Hart in New York by 43 per cent to 33 per cent, with 15 per cent of the vote going to Rev. Jackson. Nine per cent were undecided.

ABC said that among New York Jewish voters Mr. Mondale had a two-to-one lead. The poll also showed the possibility that the black primary vote might be double that of 1980, with the majority going to Rev. Jackson.

A big increase in the black vote eroded the significance of New York's Jewish vote and made it harder for Mr. Mondale to win. Mr. Mondale, in a financial crunch, avoided campaigning or spending money in Connecticut and this certainly affected his showing, according to his supporters there.

"There was no money spent for television ads, none for radio, none for newspapers, none for mailings, none for fliers (posters). None, period. And all that made a difference," said Connecticut Governor William O'Neill, Mr. Mondale's chief backer in the state.

Mr. Mondale said he had made a deliberate decision to stay out of Connecticut, but many political observers wondered Wednesday

whether that was a big tactical blunder.

The Mondale camp has conserved its resources for New York where Sen. Hart plans an expensive media blitz. It is counting on Connecticut being a one-day wonder.

But Sen. Hart's supporters saw victory there as spilling over into New York. "A lot of people who live in Connecticut world in New York and they will be talking to their friends," said John Connonorton, co-chairman of Sen. Hart's New York campaign.

The fight between Mr. Mondale and Sen. Hart has turned bitter over the past days, with sparring on such issues as who would move the U.S. embassy in Israel to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv more quickly.

Sen. Hart also has claimed that both Mr. Mondale and President Reagan could blunder into a Vietnam-style war in Central America.

Mr. Mondale said Tuesday Sen. Hart was deceiving over Lebanon by saying he had always pushed for a quick withdrawal of U.S. troops there.

But Sen. Hart countered that his record was consistent and that Mr. Mondale was the late convert to a U.S. troop withdrawal.

The Democratic candidates meet Wednesday night in a debate at Columbia University which some think could play a major role in deciding who wins New York.

## 4 killed during protests in Chile

SANTIAGO (R) — Three men and a 12-year-old boy were shot dead Tuesday during protests called by opponents of Chile's government who want a return to democracy after a decade of military rule.

Scattered incidents occurred throughout the day in major cities, many of which were seriously affected by street demonstrations, pot-banging protesters and shootings of public transport. More than 60 people died in similar protests last year.

In Santiago, a curfew went into effect at 8:30 p.m. Police and troops swept through some poor neighbourhoods where barricades of rocks and burning tyres had been erected.

They forced people off the streets with barrages of tear gas grenades and volleys of shots into the air, residents said.

Many areas of Santiago were without power after a series of explosions which could be heard clearly from the city centre. Disturbances and power cuts were reported in other major cities including Valparaiso, Vina Del Mar, Concepcion and Punta Arenas.

Chile's president, General Augusto Pinochet, flew over Santiago in a helicopter as the curfew went into effect. He told reporters afterwards that there were only a few isolated incidents in some neighbourhoods.

Ministers insisted that life in the country was carrying on normally, even though the lack of public transport in many cities restricted normal activity.

Central Santiago was relatively deserted, but it was impossible to tell if people stayed away in support of the anti-government protest or because of the public transport problems and the threat of disturbances.

## Sikh extremist violence switches to New Delhi

NEW DELHI (R) — Sikh extremist violence hit the Indian capital Wednesday when gunmen shot and wounded two moderate Sikh leaders, police said.

Four young Sikhs opened fire from a car at the two leaders while their vehicle waited for a traffic light at a busy New Delhi intersection.

The two leaders were Harbans Singh Manchanda, head of a committee which administers Sikh temples in New Delhi, and a member of the committee, Tarlochan Singh Lamba.

Both men were reported in serious condition.

Police said Manchanda was on an extremist hit-list because he was identified with a faction which opposes Sikh violence in a campaign for greater religious and political concessions in northern Punjab state where most of India's Sikhs live.

The shooting set off a wide police manhunt in New Delhi which so far has been mainly free from extremist attacks.

Police chiefs in the Sikh holy city Amritsar and two other violence-hit districts in India's Punjab state were replaced Wednesday in a major security shake-up.

A government announcement said new police superintendents were appointed in the districts of Amritsar, Gurdaspur and Ferozepur, which all border Pakistan.

The three districts have been rocked by shootings and bombings

over the past six weeks in connection with a campaign by Sikh extremists.

The most significant change was replacement of Amritsar police chief Ajpal Singh Mann, who was in charge of an area which included the Sikhs' holiest shrine, the Golden Temple. Police have said the temple is the headquarters of the extremist movement. Mann, a Sikh, was appointed only six months ago when Prime Minister Indira Gandhi dismissed the state government and took direct control of Punjab after eight Hindu travellers were killed near Amritsar.

The police shake-up followed the dismissal last month of two advisers to the state's governor, including one in charge of the key Home (Interior) portfolio.

It comes six days ahead of a campaign by the main Sikh political party, the Akali Dal, to protest against a section of the Indian constitution which equates Sikhs with Hindus.

Akali Dal President Harchand Singh Longowal has said nearly 100,000 party supporters across the state will make bonfires of the disputed provision for a week from April 2 in defiance of laws banning disrespect to national honour.

Pritam Singh Bhinder, Punjab's inspector-general of police, told reporters in Amritsar the government expected violence during the protest.

## Unarmed hijacker diverts U.S. airliner to Havana

MIAMI (R) — A hijacker who diverted a U.S. airliner to Havana Tuesday night and threatened to blow up the aircraft was not armed, officials from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in Miami said Wednesday.

No weapons or explosives were found after the man was taken away by Cuban soldiers at Havana, the FBI said.

The Piedmont Airlines Boeing 737 was flying from Charleston, South Carolina, to Miami with a total of 58 people on board when the hijacker, a young black man, sent a note to the crew identifying himself as "Lt. Spartacus" of the "Black Liberation Army."

He ordered the aircraft to fly to

Cuba and also demanded \$5 million but there was no indication how it was to be paid, the FBI said.

He later locked himself in the lavatory in the rear of the aircraft. On the door he scrawled the message: "This was necessary. I would not have hurt anyone at this point. But then a time will come when we will meet as enemies. I am sorry for this. I have duties and responsibilities. I am a soldier."

After a three-hour stay in Havana, the aircraft returned to the United States. The hijacking was the 12th from a U.S. airport since last May.

Earlier reports said three armed men had hijacked the plane.

## COLUMNS 7&8

### British SAS squad to climb Everest

LONDON (AP) — A 14-man team of soldiers from Britain's crack Special Air Service regiment is poised for an assault on Mount Everest from the Chinese side, led by two combat-hardened veterans who have scaled the world's highest mountain once before. Warrant Officers John "Brumie" Stokes and Michael "Bronco" Lane, both 38, battled to the summit of Everest in 1976. Both men lost several toes from frostbite in the climb. The two have climbed together for more than a decade between combat missions. Both are veterans of the SAS's clandestine war against Irish Republican Army guerrillas in Northern Ireland and other campaigns in which the British unit has been involved. Lane won a military medal, Britain's highest gallantry award for enlisted men, in 1979 for undercover missions in Northern Ireland. The SAS team has already established a base camp at 6,100 metres and plans to establish four other staging camps on the route to the summit of the 8,848-metre peak, a Defence Ministry spokesman said.

### Ousted mayor indicted for extortion

NEWARK, New Jersey (R) — The ousted mayor of Atlantic City was indicted Tuesday on accusations of extorting \$125,000 from a union organizer with connections to a crime syndicate, officials said. Michael Matthews, removed as mayor of the New Jersey gambling resort city earlier this month after losing a special recall election, was also charged with accepting bribes from developers eager to do business in Atlantic City. Also indicted with Matthews was Frank Lentino, a union organizer.

### 5 hanged in Damascus square

DAMASCUS (R) — Five men including a policeman were hanged in a public square in Damascus at dawn Wednesday for murder and robbery, official sources said. The policeman, Mustafa Sheikh, was also found guilty of helping prisoners to escape in return for bribes. Four minors who took part in the crimes were sentenced to prison terms of six and 15 years, the sources added.

### Male nurse alarmed by dress rules

PORTSMOUTH, England (R) — Peter Ball, the first man to sign up with the British Navy's Nursing Service, was looking forward to his new career until his first orders arrived. The navy's letter told him to bring five bras when he reported for training. A little light make-up will be fine, but leave your bright red nail varnish at home, the orders said. "I had terrible visions of what I'd look like all dolled up," Ball, 19, told reporters Tuesday. Instead, he asked for, and received, a special exemption from dress regulations. "It must have been an oversight," a navy spokesman said.

### U.S. kept fewer secrets last year

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. government classified fewer documents last year than in any of the three previous years, the White House said Tuesday. The "top secret," "secret," or "confidential" stamp was affixed to almost 200,000 fewer documents last year than in 1982, an 18 per cent decline, the White House said. But the drop hardly spells the end of government secrecy. Almost 865,000 documents were declared confidential in 1983. More than one million documents were rated too sensitive for public eyes during each of the three previous years.

## 16 killed in Peruvian jail mutiny

LIMA (Agencies) — At least 16 people were killed and 30 wounded during a jail mutiny in Lima that ended early Wednesday after a 14-hour siege, a police spokesman said.

The dead included a prison guard and a police officer. Two other officers were wounded, he added.

Before the siege ended, three of the mutineers committed suicide with dynamite and revolver shots, the spokesman, a high official of the Republican Guard, told rep-

orters at the gates of the El Sesto jail in Lima.

He did not identify the dead and wounded, saying a judge would do so in due time.

The mutiny started Tuesday at 1600 GMT when eight inmates took 15 hostages, threatening to kill them if they were not given a get-away car, police said.

Among the hostages were lawyers, guards and other inmates, including Antonio Diaz Martinez, considered as the ideologue of the Sendero Luminoso (shining path)

Maotist guerrilla group.

One hostage, prison employee Rodolfo Farfan, was shot in the stomach on a balcony in front of reporters and police when the rebels' demands for two escape vans were refused. Police initially reported he died in a hospital but Penitentiary Director Carlos Jara Calle later said he was alive in an intensive care unit.

Hours later, police advanced behind a barrage of tear-gas grenades and announced they had freed the hostages and captured the rebels.

## Chinese foreign minister leaves for 6-nation tour

PEKING (R) — Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Queshan left Wednesday for a tour of Europe and the Middle East with the aim of cementing ties with countries on both sides of the Iron curtain and discussing the Palestine issue.

China has been pushing for broader ties with West Europe which it sees as an alternative source of advanced technology and a key player in the world strategic power network.

"It is an important part of China's foreign policy to develop good relations with Western Europe," Mr. Wu told the New China News Agency before his departure.

Trade with the Community rose 20 per cent last year to \$5.57 billion with China reversing a three-year running trade surplus to end with a \$1.21 billion deficit.

Mr. Wu will take part in regular Sino-European Community talks, this time in Paris, along with the French, Greek and Irish foreign ministers.

Mr. Wu said his talks in non-aligned Yugoslavia and Romania would focus on "ways of relaxing international tension, safeguarding world peace and strengthening bilateral ties."

The two Communist countries are the pivot of China's recent diplomatic offensive in East Europe.

## Fighting in Kampuchea spills over to Thailand

BANGKOK (R) — Thai army troops backed by artillery and air force planes repulsed intruding Vietnamese forces in a brief clash on the northeast Thai border on Monday, informed military officials said Wednesday.

They said 60 to 80 Vietnamese soldiers crossed into Thailand in pursuit of Khmer Rouge guerrillas but were pushed back. Casualties on both sides were not known.

The intruders were part of a larger force which launched a heavy attack on Khmer Rouge bases along the Thai-Kampuchean border, forcing 5,000 Kampuchean refugees to flee to Thailand.

It was the first reported intrusion by Vietnamese forces this year.

Officials said the Vietnamese crossed the border at Chong Phra Palai Pass in Khun barm district of Sisaket province.

The Thai military command said earlier that Khmer Rouge guerrillas destroyed four T-54 tanks and killed several Vietnamese troops in the Vietnamese thrust last Monday.

Thai border officials said sporadic fighting continued Wednesday between the guerrillas and Vietnamese 3 kilometres inside Kampuchea.

## Lava continues flow towards Hawaii's second largest city

VOLCANO, Hawaii (AP) — Lava continued to pour from erupting Mauna Loa volcano Tuesday, paralleling a rough cross-land road on Hawaii and advancing toward Hilo, the state's second-largest city.

"I'd say it's about 123 kilometres from the westernmost habitation and about 25 kilometres from the (Hilo) harbour," said Robert Decker, scientist-in-charge of the U.S. Geological Survey's Hawaiian Volcano Observatory. "It's just a general slope downward all the way."

"I think the next 24 to 36 hours will be fairly critical," he said. "The main variable is the rate of

advance."

Mauna Loa began erupting Sunday morning for the first time since an 18-hour eruption July 5, 1975. That eruption ended 25 years of repose for the volcano, which long had been erupting in roughly four-to-five-year cycles, Mr. Decker said.

The latest eruption had created four main flows on the eastern side of the volcano.

The closest homes to the most rapid moving flow were in the Kaunakakai City area, a 450-lot subdivision containing about seven homes, said Bruce Butts, a spokesman for the Hawaii County Civil Defence.

## Largest military exercise ends in South Korea

SEOUL (R) — The United States and South Korea ended military exercises Wednesday after demonstrating what an American general described as U.S. ability to reinforce its troops on the peninsula.

General Robert Sennewald, commander of combined American and Korean forces, told a press conference the manoeuvres were the biggest ever held in South Korea.

They had shown Washington could reinforce its 40,000 forces already stationed in Korea in the event of another Korean War, he said.

More than 200,000 U.S. and South Korean forces took part in

the two-month exercises, which were marred by the crash of a helicopter on Saturday with the loss of 18 U.S. and 11 South Korean Marines.

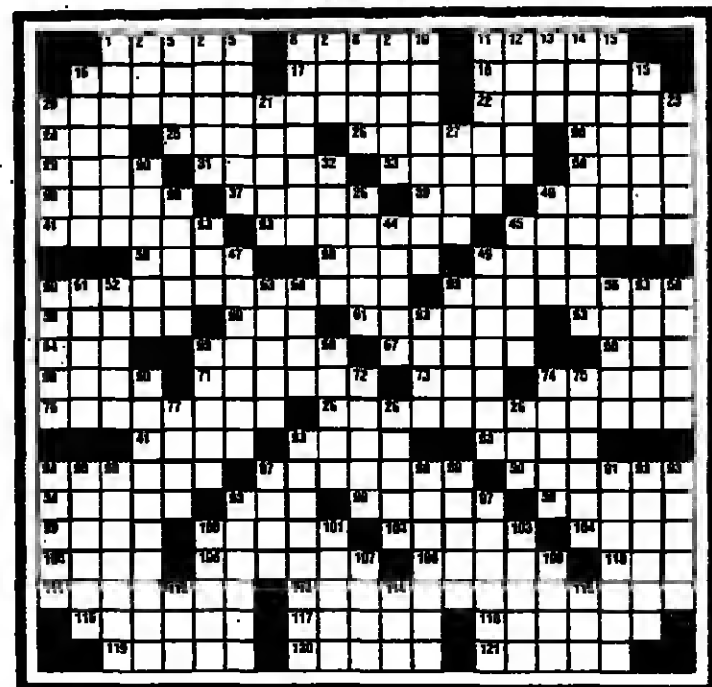
Gen. Sennewald said the crash in bad weather on a rugged mountain in southeast South Korea was still being investigated.

The 80,000-ton U.S. aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk was involved in a collision last week with a Soviet submarine off South Korea while taking part in the exercises.

Gen. Sennewald said the collision, in which the carrier suffered minor damage to jet fuel tanks, was an indication of the Soviet interest in the activities on the peninsula.

## THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Etkin



Last Week's Cryptograms

- When Father finished hanging up the new drapes, he mentioned: "This can mean curtains for all of us."
- Uncle Moses' patient ignored his good doctor's order to stay all covered up at home; he was spotted everywhere.
- Meanest children usually say in jest, "Oh, just because it's there."
- Next grocery list helps shopper combat impulse buying.

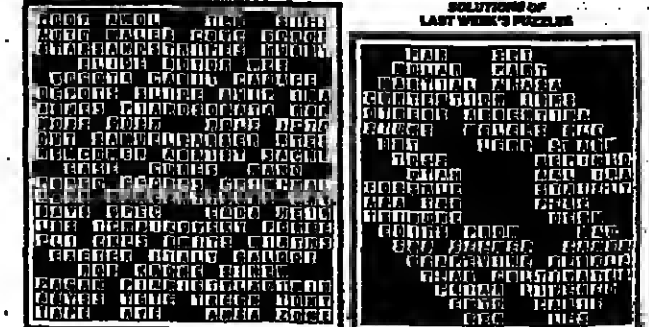
CRYPTOGRAMS

- VEVLOUS VHAOSNVMSB VEVANOUS VHAOSM  
BOER VUYPTIV VOLEVI VOTER VEVBSMPU.  
—By Les Sherry

- SYFQ ZIC CIC MZEL KECM XELQL JYER PQJ  
MRIS YP XDEMNG MZGQ ID CILQ  
—By Earl Inob

- QUIET UIRT. IGTYOR CG BIESKY. QSIER SOB  
IHIT HOPS SKY UCAR ESCAPE.  
—By Lela H. Jones

- SQEAKA OHKTS XQEAQ LTA STOK ZHQ5  
NUEPK QZ HUNK ALUAA FKKAK.  
—By Barbara J. Bagg



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## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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PARTIAL STRIP IS ENOUGH

Both vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**  
♠ 10642  
♥ 432  
♦ AQ2  
♣ 432

**WEST**  
♠ KQ  
♥ J10  
♦ K765  
♣ K9876

**EAST**  
♠ Void  
♥ 98765  
♦ J10984  
♣ J105

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

4 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

6 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♠.